

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Twelfth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Monday, April 28, 2003/Vaisakha 8, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the suspension of 27 pilots of Air-India is a very serious matter. The Government must hold discussion with pilots as SARS is causing serious concern ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise this issue in Zero Hour and you will be permitted.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of serious concern. First, pilots would like to satisfy themselves, then they will operate flights. In the month of April it caused a loss of crores of rupees to Air India and Indian Airlines. The strike by pilots is a very serious matter and such an action without taking them into confidence is not justifiable. Pilots could have been medically examined and taken into confidence that SARS will not affect their health. Thus we would like a statement from the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that it is a serious matter, but kindly raise the issue in Zero Hour. I have not accepted the notice of adjournment motion and suspension of Question Hour.

11.02 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Schemes/Programmes for Welfare of Farmers

\*523. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of schemes/programmes for welfare of the farmers could not be taken up in the recent past due to resource crunch;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether huge amount of funds earmarked therefor remained unutilized during 2000-2001;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to earmark and utilize the funds properly?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) and (b) With the resources available a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been initiated and are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for increasing the production and productivity of crops thereby helping farmers to improve their living conditions.

(c) As per information available, an amount of Rs. 299 crores approximately was lying unspent with the State Governments during the year 2000-01 under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. This is against Budget Estimate of Rs. 1965 crores and R.E. of 1692 crores provided for Plan Schemes during the year 2000-01.

(d) and (e) The main reasons for the unspent balances lying with the States, *inter-alia*, include administrative delay at the State level in reaching funds to the implementing agencies, inability of many State Governments to provide matching grants, and adverse weather conditions.

In order to ensure expeditious release of funds to the State Governments, a Special Cell has been created in the Office of CCA at Krishi Bhawan for the receipt of sanction order regarding release of Central assistance to the State. Monitoring of the implementation of the Schemes is also done regularly by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. Under Macro Management Scheme, funds are released in two instalments. Second instalment is released on the basis of utilisation certificates from the State Governments. In case of delay in submitting the utilisation there is a graded cut in the second instalment and the savings of these States are diverted to high performing States in order to ensure optimal utilisation of fund.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Sir, this is a every important question. I come from a family of agriculturists.

Today in India, 80 per cent of our people are dependent on agriculture. We all know that our country cannot survive without either agriculture or the agriculturists.

Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated the various welfare schemes and cited resource crunch as the reason for these welfare schemes not being implemented. The Minister has stated that the main reason for the unspent balance is the inability of the State Governments to provide matching grants.

Sir, here I would like to say that we are all aware that the State Governments do not have sufficient funds. They are all approaching the World Bank for loans even for paying salaries to their staff. No State Government today can provide any matching grant to the Centrally-sponsored schemes. With this background in view, the hon. Minister has stated that approximately an amount of Rs 299 crore was lying unspent with the State Governments during the year 2000-01. Last week Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi had stalled the proceedings of the Question Hour as he was very much concerned about the Defence Budget not being spent.

MR SPEAKER: You please ask your question.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this situation of unspent balance would always continue or not. The end-users, the farmers are being sandwiched between the problems of the Centre and the States and are not getting the benefit of these schemes. Could the Government come out with a scheme whereby money could be directly given for the implementation of these welfare schemes? We have got schemes like the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana and the Swajaldhara scheme. Is the Minister planning something on these lines whereby the amounts could be directly spent for the implementation of these welfare schemes?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matching grant is different in different schemes. Some Schemes are 100 per cent Centrally-sponsored also. So, it depends on the schemes. These schemes are accepted only after consultations with the States. In the macro management the State have the authority. We give them the money and they suggest the schemes. It is not that this money lapses. This money does not lapse. It may not be spent in a particular year; but it continues in the next year. Now we have created a system that after we release the first instalment, before releasing the second instalment we check up whether the money released in the first instalment has been spent and whether the utilisation certificate has been received.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: The answer is very vague. I come from Mahabubnagar district where 80 per cent people are depending on agriculture. As the Minister also knows, Telangana is a very backward region in Andhra Pradesh and Mahabubnagar is a very backward district. Yesterday itself he has given a very nice speech and assured the people of Telangana in Warangal that agriculturists will be looked after. In Mahabubnagar district, agriculturists are committing suicide because of lack of schemes going directly to agriculturists. In the macro management we have seen that 90 per cent of the amount is being given to the State Government and the State Government is supposed to make an annual layout or plan. But no State Government is doing that and he knows about it.

Therefore, I want him—again I am asking the same question—to tell us whether he will think of some scheme which will go directly to the end-user, that is, the farmers, so that they will not commit suicide. Today we are spending a lot of amount of Information Technology; but we are forgetting our farmers. It is a side-subject. The mainstay of our people is agriculture.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The hon. Member comes from a district which was very badly affected the drought last year and a lot of migration has taken place from there. We are aware of the problems. As I said, last year the drought had created a lot of hardship for farmers. Again, I have to state that agriculture is a State subject; we can only have a scheme and we can give money. But the implementation has to be done by the State Government.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in India's vast geographical area, the farmers crops are continuously being damaged either due to natural calamities or other reasons such as floods, drought and hailstorm. That is why the Central Government has implemented Crop Insurance Scheme for the welfare of the farmers. Under Crop Insurance Scheme premium is deducted at the time of buying seeds and fertilisers. Thereafter, if the crop is damaged due to any reason, they must get compensation. Today, the position is that India's more than 70 per cent area is reeling under drought due to scanty rainfall. The States like Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are reeling under drought for the last three to five years. It is seen, especially in my constituency that premium has been deducted from farmers but they are not getting the benefits of Crop Insurance Scheme. I through you would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether any assessment or survey has been done to know how many farmers of drought affected areas are covered under Crop Insurance

Scheme? Alongwith this, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that the farmers of the areas which have already been declared drought affected by the Central or State Governments, have received insurance money.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the inception of this scheme an amount of rupees 1796.80 crore have been disbursed as compensation to drought affected farmers in the last five years. This amount has been paid to 77 lakh farmers. The claims amounting approximately to rupees 25 crore are even pending for the reason that the State Governments have 50 per cent share in it and they have not released their dues. It is not correct to say that the farmers have not received money. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked whether any such survey has been conducted or not? My other question was that what action is being taken by the Central Government to ensure that the farmers to whom the benefits have not been given even after such surveys must get the benefits?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The State Government submit reports according to the norms laid down for insurance and the Centre's Claim Settlement Committee decides each and every thing. It take into account all the aspects regarding claims such as where was drought witnessed and whether crops were damaged due to drought or for some other reasons and for all these things how much compensation should be awarded to the farmers. All the insured farmers are compensated under this scheme.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: What norms will be laid down for the regions having an yield of less then 33 percent so that the farmers could get the benefits of insurance.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot ask questions again and again.

[*English*]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: This Question relates to programmes and schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture. I know that agriculture is a State subject. In the federal structure, according to the Sarkaria Commission Report, the National Development Council, which consists of the Chief Ministers of the States, took a decision to transfer all Central Schemes to the State Governments. What is going on now? If any scheme is formulated by the Centre and if they want to implement that scheme, they send 50 per cent of the funds in the first phase and after getting the utilisation certificate, they

are sending the rest of the funds. That is why, the schemes are not implemented properly. In the federal structure, we have to lay more thrust on the States and believe them. What is the necessity for the Centre to retain all the schemes?

Is the Government ready to transfer all the schemes to the States according to the Sarkaria Commission Report and the decision of the National Development Council? You should give facilities for research and development, finance and other inputs to the State Governments and not retain them with the agriculture Ministry. Will the Government be ready to transfer all the schemes to the States?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Under macro management, the State Governments have the freedom to suggest schemes and after discussing them with us, the scheme is approved and the money is released. Many hon. Members complain here that we should monitor the money given to the States and see how it is being utilised. We say that it is not possible. But, at least, we give half the money and get the utilization certificate. I do not think that most of the Members would agree that we should dispense with this system and right away give the whole amount to the States.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I am not quarrelling with the Minister. India is a great country. We have separate assignments to be done by the Centre and the States. ...(*Interruptions*) The Central Government may take care of other schemes. But agriculture is a State subject. So, the budgetary allocation meant for the Agriculture Ministry should be transferred to the States so that the States may formulate the schemes according to their requirements. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT SINGH: It is macro management case.

MR. SPEAKER: I think you have already replied to him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India has launched special component plan for dalit and Scheduled Tribes farmers, which constitute 22.5 per cent of India's total population. Therefore, the Department of Agriculture must spend 22.5 per cent funds on them. I would like to know the amount spent on them during 2002-2003 and the amount proposed to be spend in the year 2003-2004. If justice has to be done to these dalits and ST farmers, then 22.5 per cent of budget must be spent for their amelioration. .

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir the schemes are for agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, storage and watershed development. Rates of grants-in-aid being provided for these activities are higher for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Suppose in case of storage grant is 25 per cent then it is 33 per cent for Schedule Tribes. However, the schemes are not for the welfare of particular section or society. Our endeavour is to increase agricultural production and also development of fisheries and live-stock. Whenever we provide grants-in-aid then the people of SC and ST communities get benefits of it and they get more assistance in comparison to any other section of society.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, he does not know what is STP? ...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rashtrapal, please sit down. Mr. Speaker, you need not reply to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not taken his question on record. You need not reply to him.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you, this august House and the whole country is aware of the deplorable condition of the peasants. Sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh are in deplorable condition and in Andhra Pradesh farmers have Committed suicide. The farmers all over the country are disgruntled. The hon. Minister emphasized that many welfare schemes are being implemented for the welfare of the farmers. It is being observed that the labourers and small farmers are continuously migrating to cities due to unemployment in villages. The hon. Minister claims that the Government is implementing E.S. Scheme under which villagers get employment ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tiwariji, please ask question directly.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my simple question is that the labourers and farmers migrate to cities for jobs to earn Rs. 500-1000 in the absence of any attraction left in agriculture. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any scheme to keep alive attraction in agriculture among the labourers and farmers so that they prefer to work at their

native place instead of migrating to cities in search of petty jobs. The second question is ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tiwariji please wait for reply.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, as the hon. Member mentioned and all other hon. Members are aware that now agriculture is not a profit earning business. There is need to make it remunerative. Only then it will attract more and more investment and the migration to cities will end. There are many Government schemes as minimum support price, which are able to attract investment. However, it is a universally known fact that problem is continuing in agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister should solve the problem ...*(Interruptions)*. The problem is what percentage it will assume in five or ten years. It is accepted by all that agriculture is a loss making profession but whether the hon. Minister has any such scheme for the betterment of agriculture ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is being misled.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, right now condition of farmers is deteriorating. I would like to know from the Minister as to what steps he is going to take for their welfare.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tiwariji, the hon. Minister has answered your question. Please take your seat.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Sir, it is a serious question. Please pay attention towards it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked the hon. Minister to pay attention to this problem.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Sir, recently I read in the newspapers that the hon. Minister threatened to resign if he fails to do anything for the betterment of the farmers. Mr. Speaker when are you going to resign?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a party of history. Now, there is no question of resigning.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister contradicts four things.

[English]

In the reply it is stated that against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 1,692 crore provided for plan schemes during the year 2000-01, an amount of Rs. 299 crore was lying



unspent. As stated here, the main reasons for not spending the money are: (1) administrative delay, (2) not providing matching funds; and (3) non-issue of utilisation certificates.

[Translation]

Sir, I want reply of this in one word.

[English]

The theme of the Question is to improve the conditions of the farmers.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: This is not the theme of the Question.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Yes. In the first paragraph of the Minister's reply, it is said, 'to improve the living conditions of the farmers'. It is written in the first paragraph.

My pointed questions are: What are the indicators to measure the improvement in the living conditions of the farmers? What are the targets? What has been achieved by the agriculture-based industries?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: This question does not follow from the main Question. It is a specific question that we give money to the States for certain schemes. It pertains to how they are being utilised, how much money, in a particular year, was left unutilised, etc. If you want a debate about the condition of the farmers, improving their situation and what is happening overall in the agricultural sector, that is a different issue.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: I do not agree with the hon. Minister about this.

MR. SPEAKER: You may not agree with him. But this is the Question Hour. No more reply can be given to this question.

#### National Livestock Policy

\*525. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a uniform National Livestock Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the policy; and

(c) the action taken to allocate more funds to the livestock sector as demanded by the States in the plan schemes to generate employment and also increase income to the cattle breeders?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Livestock Policy is being formulated to attain qualitative and quantitative improvement in livestock, livestock products, feed and fodder resources, and also to have a better interface between modern technologies regarding breeding, nutrition and health care through various management interventions and Animal Husbandry Extension Programme, to guide the future policies and programmes.

(c) The 9th Plan allocation of Rs. 1682.95 crore has been enhanced to Rs. 2500 crore in 10th Plan.

New Schemes namely Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, Poultry/Dairy Venture Capital Funds, Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production and Strengthening of Database Information Net Working are being taken up during 10th Plan Period.

Release of funds under Central Plan Schemes to all States and UT's during the last five years is given below:—

Year	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Amount (Rs. in lakh)	9028	12527	13420	15528	15181

SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the statement laid on the Table of the House by the hon. Minister. I want to have some more information in respect of this Question.

In order to protect the interests of the farmers, what steps have been taken by the Government to check up the cheap varieties of livestock imports under the WTO regime which are adversely affecting the interests of the farmers? This is the first question.

Secondly, what are the recommendations of the State Ministers who held the Conference on Animal Husbandry recently? What is the action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you not ask a straight question? You need not develop the background. Please put the question.

SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA: I am putting the question only. My question is about the recommendations, especially regarding the stepping up of investments in the livestock sector. I am very happy to see that the Plan allocation has increased in the Tenth Plan. But if we go through year-wise figures, it has been reduced in the year 2002-03. I want to know from the hon. Minister about this question directly.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: As the hon. Member has mentioned, in the Tenth Plan, the money has been increased for the livestock sector. The major thrust during the Tenth Plan is in respect of animal disease control, livestock, breed improvement and development, fodder development, dairy and poultry development and fisheries development. Increased money is directed towards these objectives. A National Policy on the Livestock is being formulated.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Sir, please permit me to raise a question which I wanted to raise during the first Question when that was taken up.

Our hon. Minister says that a sum of Rs. 299 crore was lying unspent in one particular year whereas the implementing agencies are not able to take any action to see that the funds reached the people on time. But, on the other hand, farmers are being driven to the wall and they are committing suicide. About implementation, I have a question to put. What are the schemes that they are formulating to see that funds reached the needy people on time as far as agricultural sector is concerned?

Next, on 24th April, 2000, our hon. Prime Minister, while releasing a book, called for a Hunger Free India by 2007. Railways is one of the wings of the transport sector which is having a separate Budget. But 80 per cent of the people depend upon agriculture. They go to bed without two square meals a day in spite of their hard work from dawn to dusk. The hon. Minister himself has once told that inadequate fund for agriculture development is the main reason for not implementing the development programmes. I would request the hon. Minister to take up the cause of the farmers to the hon. Prime Minister and the Government in order to have more funds. I would further request that there should be a separate Budget for agriculture. We claim and say that agriculture is the backbone of the economy and the national interest depends on agriculture. But it appears that we pay only lip service.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the schemes to get these funds reach the implementing agencies on time and secondly I would like to know whether he is taking up the cause of the people belonging to the farm sector with the Government of India so as to have a separate budget for agriculture.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, we are making all efforts in this direction and we are speaking to the Prime Minister also in this regard. As the hon. Member has suggested, the endeavour of the Government is always to see how best the schemes benefit the end users. In this, we seek the cooperation of the hon. Members and also that of the State Governments. But this question is about uniform National Livestock Policy and this is not about schemes for the welfare of farmers.

*[Translation]*

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the opinion of every State would be sought while formulating the National Livestock Policy and whether the Government intend to take up the issue of imposing a ban on Cow Slaughter. ...*(Interruptions)*

My second question is that our country is facing drought situation. Cattle are dying in several States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. So, I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government to protect the Cattle and to arrange for their fodder. Similarly we get milk from the cattle. Anand and N.D.D.B. have done a very good job in the co-operative sector in terms of milk production. Why then milk production is not increasing in the cooperative sectors in other States? What the Government is doing in this regard?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are seeking the opinion of States in matters of policy formulation and have written to them in this regard. I had recently convened a meeting of the Ministers of the Animal husbandry to seek their comments on formulation of a national policy. To tackle the problem facing the cattle due to the drought situation, we have released money through the N.C.C.F. and the P.M. Relief Fund. Moreover, to deal with the crisis of fodder, the Government propose to create fodder depot, fodder banks alongwith formulating special schemes in this regard during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: I would like to know whether the matter relating to ban on cow slaughter will be incorporated in the cattle policy?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: That matter is under the consideration of the Government.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister through you for raising the allocation from Rs. 1682 crore as provided for animal husbandry in the Ninth Five Year Plan to Rs. 2500 crore.

Sir, there are certain areas in India where 70 to 80 percent people are dependent on animal husbandry for their livelihood. There are low rainfed areas and have a little industries. In some of these areas particularly Jaisalmer, Barmer, Nagore, Pali and Bikaner of Western Rajasthan, there is less rain and moreover there is drought. There is no other source of livelihood because the industrialists repair from setting up industries in those areas. In this situation, the resources for animal husbandry are not sufficient. The Government of Rajasthan cannot provide all the resources. There is no hospital and if the hospital is there, there is no medicine thereafter and in case medicines are available, there is no doctor. I would like to know whether the Government would conduct any survey in such areas where majority of farmers are based on animal husbandry. Whether the Government would give separate package for those areas after identifying them where farmers are dying of hunger and they have no source of livelihood?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The hon. Member has said that there are certain areas in our country where majority of people are dependent on animal husbandry. Apparently the schemes relating to animal husbandry including the schemes of Fodder Development, Disease Control or Poultry Development, are all meant for providing maximum benefits to the farmers of those areas. The hon. Member has said that in Rajasthan we have the maximum people dependent on animal husbandry. In this context, I would like to say that those schemes are to provide maximum benefits to the people of those areas only.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: You have not given me any assurance. I want to say that cattle are dying in those areas. There is no medicine available for them. I want to ask whether you would like to announce any package after conducting a survey.

MR. SPEAKER: You should pay attention to it.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The Government often conducts survey taking into account the impact of drought on livestock. The Government is concerned about this. I can assure you that the Government would take all possible

steps particularly for the western areas of Rajasthan which are facing drought for the fourth time consequently. We are in the constant touch with the State Government to decide as to what steps are required to be taken.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the climatic conditions of our country are favourable for the fast multiplication of vegetation, livestock and human beings. This may be our weakness, but at the same time this is also a source of strength for us. In order to best utilisation of the vegetation and livestock of the country, what we require is a clear vision which is clearly lacking. There is no proper planning, unfortunately we discuss only issues and we do not discuss over policies. However, there is urgent need of formulating a policy in this regard. We are far behind in this field for want of national policy regarding livestock. The hon. Minister has assured that he is going to formulate the policy. That is good, but the point is how long will it take in coming into existence and what will be its form and when will that be implemented. It would be good if the hon. Minister informs us in this regard.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has rightly said that livestock has an important place in agriculture sector. The share of animal husbandry and livestock in GDP is increasing. I think that after a long period of four-five years we have held the meeting of the Minister of the department of animal husbandry to highlight the entire range of issues and to formulate a policy. The hon. Member said that a policy was formulated in 1996. I would like to inform in this regard that the process of formulating a policy started in 1993, the draft was formulated in 1996 and the same was sent to different States seeking their comments and opinion, but no such opinion/comments came from any State. Since the situation has changed so we have decided now to convene another meeting to formulate the said policy soon.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had requested that I want to ask a question in this regard and you assured me to give a chance to ask a supplementary question. But, now you have taken up another question and deny me the chance of asking the supplementary question. Therefore, I walk out in protest.

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singh ji, you should not walk out and be seated. I would like to tell you that 8-10 members have approached to ask the supplementary question, that is why I did not allow you. If you ask for half an hour discussion on this subject, I would definitely allow that under the rule. That time you can put your views.

[English]

I now go to Q. No. 526.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, we also never get a chance to ask questions ...*(Interruptions)*

**Investment on Research and Development in Agriculture**

\*526. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to invest more on research and development in agriculture to reduce import of edible oils; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government proposes to raise allocation in the X Plan for research and development on oilseeds in the country.

The total investment in oilseed research funded by ICAR to its institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects on nine oilseed crops (groundnut, soybean, sunflower, safflower, linseed, sesame and niger and castor) oilpalm and oil bearing trees is proposed to be raised from Rs. 14493.79 lakh in IX Plan to Rs. 24757.82 lakh in X Plan. For promotion of oil bearing trees, an allocation of Rs. 3000 lakh has been proposed in the X Plan through NOVOD Board compared to Rs. 2465 lakh in IX Plan. Oil palm is an other source of edible oil. The ICAR has established a National Research Centre on Oilpalm at Eluru (Andhra Pradesh). For oilpalm research the allocation is proposed to be raised from Rs. 790 lakh in IX Plan to Rs. 1145 lakh in X Plan.

Under Technology Mission on Oilseed and Pulses an allocation of Rs. 950 crore has been made in the X Plan compared to Rs. 808.63 crore provided in the IX Plan for promotion of oilseed and pulse production in the country.

Steps have been taken to develop multiple disease resistant varieties of different oilseed crop for enhancing

and stabilizing production. Hybrids with higher yield potential are being developed in sunflower and safflower. A stable male sterility system has been identified in rapeseed-mustard which has increased the prospect of development of hybrid in this crop. The research in the area of biotechnology is proposed to be strengthened in the X Plan to exploit the benefit of this tool for development of varieties resistant to biotic and a biotic stresses. Steps are also being taken to improve quality of oil and oilmeal. For acceleration of quality seed production, it is proposed to strengthen breeder seed production program. As frontline demonstration is considered to be an effective mechanism for transfer of technology, it will continue to receive priority attention.

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Sir, I want to know the amount spent on research and development in agriculture during the year and the amount proposed to be spent in the next year, particularly on the cultivation of palm oil in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised the issue of oil seeds budget. In this regard, I have just said that the amount has been raised for this during the 10th Five Year Plan compared to Ninth Five Year Plan. We have set up a Palm Oil Research Centre in Andhra Pradesh. We want to encourage palm oil. We import palm oil on a large scale. At the moment I do not have the exact figure concerning Research and Development for the next year. So I am not able to tell that.

[English]

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Sir I would like to know whether there is any research institute where research in the field of agriculture, particularly in the cultivation of plam oil is being done in the country.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, as I mentioned, an Oil Research Institute has just been started in Andhra Pradesh. It has to be formally inaugurated very soon.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister a very direct and a pointed question. I limit myself to research and development. The Punjab Government has sent to you a latest proposal after doing a lot of research on different agricultural cash crops for diversification of agriculture. Punjab has the worst agrarian crisis today. Will the Minister act upon that scheme and immediately go ahead with that so that we can save our State?

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the report of Johal Committee came from the State Government. The point was raised therein that as to whether the Agriculture Ministry could give money for diversification. There is no separate fund for diversification. That was what I said, thereafter there has been no follow up.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, I would like to request you.  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can make your request later, please ask you question now.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, the farmers of Punjab have lot of expectation from you. The country will suffer a lot without diversification.

[*English*]

Over-utilisation of ground level water has reached to such an extent that 90 blocks out of 117 blocks have gone brackish. So, Sir, I think, he should act upon this scheme. This is very important.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The hon. Member said that farmers of Punjab have lot of expectation from me. The country also expects from Punjab particularly in agriculture sector. The Punjab has so far stood to this expectation. The Government have many schemes for diversification which are being implemented. If the Government of Punjab comes out with some specific plan, then we would definitely consider that.

[*English*]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: The Punjab Government has sent a Special Plan under the Johal Committee. I may please be associated with the good question of Shri J.S. Brar. Thank you.

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Sir, the crop growers of groundnut especially in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat were getting fair price for their crop in the past but due to the liberal policy of import—as the palm oil has been imported—there is greater palm oil in the local market. Therefore, the growers of groundnut, especially in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat are not attracted to grow that crop. If they are supported by research and also by giving them some subsidy, then groundnut crop especially in Maharashtra and Gujarat would be grown and they would be in a position to support almost all the

States in the country. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister whether there is any policy to support groundnut crop growers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, there is acute shortage of oil seeds and edible oil in the country. That is why we are importing them. Moreover, we are increasing the prices of commodities like gram and nut, mustard oil. So far as research work on ground nuts is concerned, that work is already going on in Junagarh, Guajrat.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question may be somewhat different from the original one, but it is an important question. It is being stated here that they will start the research programme and they will do that. I would like to know whether it would be limited to the laboratory only or it would reach to the general public. There are some important breeds in our country such as Yamunapari goat and Bhadavari buffalo. The hon. Minister has also stated that this breed is on the verge of extinction. This is a very renowned breed of the world. What action and measures have they taken to ensure the survival of this breed? I would like to say that when Bamala Sahib was the Minister of Agriculture during the Janata Government in the year 1977-78, at that time Chaudhary Sahib wrote me a letter and I also met him. At that time I was looking after Animal husbandry department in Uttar Pradesh. At that time Bamala Sahib had made a provision of Rs. 2 crore for this purpose. If the whole correspondence is available and whether according to that the honourable Minister would take any measure to preserve this breed. This is what I want to ask from him so that this programme could reach to the general public?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Member has stated at the very beginning that this question is a bit different from the original question. The issue of Yamunapari goat that has been raised is a totally different question as the original question is about oil seeds,  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is entirely different from the original one. Even then you may give a reply to it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The concern expressed by the honourable Member is appreciable. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He knows it, as do you and I also know it. But his question is very important.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The concern of the hon. Member is as to how we can preserve our local breeds. We are formulating a separate scheme for this. I know about Yamunapari goat, about the Jodhpuri breed. I am also aware about the livestock available in Gujarat.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Choudhary Sahib was very much worried about Yamunapari goat. When he fell ill, he had asked for Yamunapari goat. This is what he should know. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH: I have not fallen sick as yet. When I will fell ill, then you may send a goat to me.

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, are we going to discuss that question? Are we going to discuss this livestock question again? If it is so, then we will ask the question. I am asking this because the question here is about palm oil. If you are going to discuss livestock issue again, then we have no objection. Then we will ask some questions.

MR. SPEAKER: You are right Shri Sharad Pawar. But, as special case it was permitted by the Member, by the Minister; and by the Speaker also.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, coconut is an oil-bearing tree. I would like to know whether it has been included in the Technology Mission. There was a research centre at Kayamkulam some time back. It is not functioning properly now. Now, coconut is admittedly an oil-bearing tree.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: What are the steps taken under the Technology Mission to fight the coconut disease, mite? Secondly, what research work is being done to eliminate this disease?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mite disease in coconut has affected vast areas in Kerala and Karnataka also, and our research system has come up with a pesticide for that. It has been applied, and now we are working on biological methods because that pesticide application, which was found out, was not very practical.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: There is cutting and removal of trees. Is there any scheme for saving coconut?

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You cannot disturb him like this. Shri Rajo Singh.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJO SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has made a detailed statement in regard to the oilseeds research. There are nine points under the oilseeds crops—Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower, Kusum, linseed, Sesame, Ramtil and Castor. The farmers growing these crops are desisting from producing these crops because these crops do not fetch remunerative prices in the market. The cost of production thereof exceeds the price available in the market. What does the Government propose to do to once again attract the farmers towards cultivating these crops. This is what I want to now clearly from the Government, through you?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: All the oilseeds including linseed and castor are procured by the Government at the minimum support price. Their support prices have been continuously increased during the previous years so that they may become remunerative and the farmers are encouraged to produce them more and more.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 527, Shri K.P. Singh Deo. he is not there.

Shri P. Rajendran. He is also not there.

But, if the Minister is prepared to reply, he can.

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA: I am prepared to reply, if anybody wants to ask any question.

MR. SPEAKER: I think I can ask him.

Okay. We go to Question No. 528—Shri K. Malaisamy.

#### Security Check at Airports by CISF

\*528. SHRI K. MALAISAMY:  
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether numerous complaints of harassment and ill-treatment of air passengers in the name of security and frisking by C.I.S.F. at Indian airports have been received; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to mitigate this problem without compromising on security?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) A few complaints have been received.

(b) Whenever a complaint is received, it is duly enquired into by senior officers of CISF and BCAS, and prompt action is taken, wherever necessary. To further mitigate this problem, as an ongoing process, regular training on behaviour and courtesy is imparted to CISF personnel deployed at airports. Instructions/guidelines are reiterated from time to time to ensure passenger friendly behaviour.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Thank you, Sir. I am able to see the reply. The reply given is inadequate, incomplete, and evasive. As such, this has not served the purpose of the Question at all. Sir, as far as this Question is concerned, many of our Members have got their experience in some form or the other. Sir, what exactly happens in the name of security or in the name of frisking at the airports is something unusual, particularly after this job has been taken over by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and it was replaced by them from the regular police who have been professionalised, and who have been more competent to do the job of security.

What exactly happens is that in the name of checking the handbag, they take out the shaving blades. In the case of women, they take out the safety pins. I do not know how the shaving blade and the safety pin are going to be a menace to security. This was not only taken by them, but also it was never handed over at all. What my experience is, I had a pack of 7 o'clock blades imported from elsewhere. The whole thing was taken away and it was not given back to me. So, as far as I am concerned, this is the experience.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Madurai, when six or seven Members of Parliament came together, the same thing happened. Whatever procedures they adopt, they are not uniform. In Delhi, they do something; in Chennai, they do something; and in Madurai, they do it in a different way. The Minister has said that they are giving training and making enquiries whenever complaint comes. What I am trying to ask here is, what is the procedure you adopt? The normal procedure of supervisions and monitoring are well know. But what exactly is being done

when a complaint is given by a Member of Parliament? ...*(Interruptions)* Can you allow me to speak? When a complaint is given by a Member of Parliament or even by a passenger, they have not been associated to find out what exactly happened. On the other hand, some officer goes, enquires and then they say everything is in order. My question is, what is the total number of complaints? You have said that there are a few complaints. According to me, there are several written and unwritten complaints. First, what is the total quantity and quantum of complaints? Second, do you have any procedure of monitoring the system of security through a third agency in addition to what you have got in your hierarchical discipline? I do not say that you are not doing anything. But what you are doing is not adequate. Is this being watched through some third agency that whatever the training or lesson you give is being implemented? Finally, in the light of all the information that you are going to gather today from the House. Are you going to review the system?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malaisamy, how long can you go on asking questions? Please sit down now. You can straightway ask the question. You cannot give a speech during the Question Hour.

The Minister can now give the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as the security of airports is concerned, is a thankless job. The security officers discharge their responsibility for the sake of the safety of the lives of the passengers but it is true that after the incident of hijack of I.C.-814, rules have been made more stringent. And thereafter the incident of 11.09.2001 has drawn more attention of the entire world towards security and safety.

He has raised the issue of C.I.S.F. After the incident of hijack of I.C.-814, the Cabinet Committee on security had taken a decision that responsibility of security of all the airports *i.e.* the sixty eight airports, from where flights are operated, be assigned to the C.I.S.F.—a paramilitary force. On the basis of that decision we have assigned the responsibility of security to the C.I.S.F. As Shri Malaisamy ji said that when he was frisked, some incident involving a shaving blade had happened. He was having a pack of 7 O'clock brand blade which was taken from him. His complaint is genuine and we are looking into it. So far, we have received such 15 complaints only out of which eight complaints have been made by the Members of Parliament whereas five Members of Parliament have applauded the work of C.I.S.F. Since the Government is bound by the matters related to security, we are certainly

trying that Members of Parliament and common passengers are not unnecessarily harassed in the name of security. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please allow me to put my second Supplementary. You can have your chance later. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about a shaving blade. How are you concerned will this question? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: I would like to know whether there is any improvement or better effectiveness after the CISF took over from the regular police under the earlier system. I would also like to know how much money is spent more on these people.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we conduct surveys through the Commissioner, Civil Aviation and Airport Authority and the situation has comparatively improved. It is true that expenditure involved in it has increased a bit. Out of rupees 200 that we charge from the passengers, rupees 180 are spent on security with the deployment of C.I.S.F. the expenditure has increased a little. At present about Rs. 200 crore are being spent on it.

*[English]*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, the point that has been raised is very relevant but I do not agree that there is something wrong in the guidelines.

Only the day before yesterday, I travelled from here to Guwahati by an Indian Airlines flight. When I was broading the flight, a small cigar was taken out from me and they gave me a receipt and asked me to collect it at Guwahati Airport. While coming back yesterday, we went to the airport and asked for it but they said that it was not there. When I was enplaning, they gave it to me with the remark by the highest officer that it was not necessary for the CISF people on duty in Delhi to take it out. The guideline does not say which size of cigar should be taken out. It was almost of the size of a little

finger. Therefore, as the hon. Member has raised it, the guidelines should be very clear what type of cigars, what type of blades and what type of equipment have got to be taken out. The hon. Minister is in the Government and he knows better. So, he has to kindly ensure that the guidelines are proper. He should kindly do it and have a review of what they are doing. I do not blame them. They are doing a good work; they are quite polite and quite nice.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, sir, we go by the lkau guidelines which has a list of 84 items and sometimes some confessions are there about that. The honourable member has given a right suggestion. We are making the list shorter. Some people have raised the question about frisking being done at the ladder point and about the hairpin the women usually wear. We are going to make that list also short and hand it over to the officers of the C.I.S.F.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have got a bitter experience with regard to the deployment of C.I.S.F. for security arrangements at Airports. I have met and complained to their Director General Shri Mishra twice. One day the personnel of this force did not allow our two Union Ministers Shri Anna Saheb and Shri Vikhe Patil. When I came to know about it, I went there and tried to persuade them. But like there is Maharashtra Police in Maharashtra, Delhi Police in Delhi, earlier protocol officers were deployed there so as to avoid any dispute. We go there as V.I.P. but other passengers have a lot of complaints. They say that they pay rupees ten thousand to purchase the tickets but they are treated very badly. I would like to say that officers of Mumbai airport do not remain present there. People are treated very badly. There is one officer at Mumbai airport, perhaps his name is Shri Sahay. I have tried to contact him twice or thrice. He lives far away from there. I would like to know whether any responsible officer would be deployed there so that the V.I.Ps. visiting there are treated in a disciplined way by the protocol officer. Has he made such an arrangement? It is an important issue because at 68 airports, the Members of Parliament of that area. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister may give the reply otherwise his question will continue.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: So far, they have not formulated the local committees at the sixty eight airports which are chaired by the local Members of Parliament and the industrialists and other persons are the executive members or office bearers. Why have they not formed that committee so far?



SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: As far as the question of protocol is concerned, the hon. Member, who is the Member of Parliament, is known to all the Members of the staff. We have got an objective in deploying C.I.S.F. and he has raised a doubt about that very objective. The personnel of C.I.S.F. would start recognizing everyone very soon. We have seen that the airports where security arrangements were being manned by the state police, sometimes it has happened that because the police personnel knew the V.I.Ps. and would salute them, the V.I.Ps. crossed without getting frisked. As such we have now deployed the C.I.S.F.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: There is no need to allow anyone to go without undergoing the security check. We are also searched everyday. We never object to it. We never mind getting frisked. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: The employees of the Airports Authority, Indian Airlines and Private Carriers pay due respect to the V.I.Ps. having the boarding cards but we have given a list to the security officers and they do not recognize anyone except the exempted category people. This is what we have directed them.

[*English*]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, nobody wants to make any compromise on the security issue. But, after CISF people have been deployed, they do not know how to behave with the passenger. They do not behave politely with the passenger, and they are very harsh with the people. Take, for example, deployment of these persons far away from their places. At Calicut Airport in Kerala, people are not able to speak in Malayalam. Passengers are not able to speak in Hindi. They cannot converse what is the issue. There is nobody to whom they can complain. The passengers cannot complain. Nobody is responsible there. Is the CISF Captain there? Is their Chief there? Nobody is there. So, in the entire system, there are a lot of defects. The system is to be rectified.

Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister whether there is any proposal under consideration for improving the established situation.

With your permission, Sir, I would like to suggest that let there be local police people to help CISF people. Otherwise, it is very difficult. The CISF people do not know how to deal with the passengers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when officials of C.I.S.F. come to the airport for their

duty, C.I.S.F. officers keep it in mind that they give priority to post such constables, if available, who are familiar to the dialect of their place of posting. This is what we take into account specifically. But some complaints of such types about the dialect are being received. However the work assign to them includes less speaking and more checking. As such we have not yet got much serious complaints about dialect or language.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when frisking is done, whatever appears objectionable, that is traced to there and then but after that when we go inside without bags, then again they open our bags and check them. When frisking is done, the objectionable weapon, be it small or big, is traced there and then, then there should be no need of reopening the bag. My Question is that 80 percent security personnel may be from C.I.S.F. but 20 percent should be from the local price. What are his views about it?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I have already replied to this question.

MR. SPEAKER: You have replied to this question.

[*English*]

#### **Synergy between Civil Aviation and IAF**

\*529. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are certain disparities in the decision-making process and inventory management norms in defence and civil aviation sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for greater synergy between IAF and Civil Aviation in order to ensure effective policing of the country's air corridors?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) The procedures applicable for airspace management and air navigation services in the Indian airspace under the jurisdiction of Civil Aviation are in conformity with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) established by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for uniform application

throughout the world in the interest of safety of air operations. These SARPs are not applicable to defence operations.

(c) Civil flights operate within the airspace reserved for civil operations. Flight plans of all intended operations of a civil aircraft are passed on the Air Force Military Liaison Unit (AFMLU) which in turn, issues Air Defence clearance number for civil flights. No civil flight is allowed to enter the Indian airspace without in Air Defence clearance. Allocation of airspace between civil and defence is done through mutual consultation. Promulgation of Air Traffic Service routes through defence airspace is done only after prior approval of appropriate defence authorities. Airports Authority of India (AAI) is also establishing a Joint Control and Analysis Centre at Air Traffic Control Complex at Indra Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi to monitor and analyze critical situation and coordination with the concerned defence authorities.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the pilots of Air India are on strike now-a-days. The pilots of Air Force can operate the Boeing plane and Airbuses. If there would have been proper coordination in advance, then this situation of strike would not have arisen. I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to whether he has got any action plan to utilise the services of the pilots of Air force in the event of strike?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question does not relate to the original question. As far as strike is concerned, we can discuss it separately.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Recommendations of Murari Committee

\*524. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations made by high powered Murari Committee regarding the impact of mechanized fishing by Indian and foreign companies on the traditional fishermen; and

(b) the present position of recommendations in terms of acceptance and implementation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) A review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy under the Chairmanship of Shri P. Murari was constituted in February, 1995 in the wake of agitation

of fishermen in the country against operation of foreign vessels in Indian waters. The recommendations made by the Committee and present status, action taken thereon is enclosed as statement.

### Statement

#### *Recommendations of the Review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy*

1. All permits issued for fishing by joint venture/charter/lease/test fishing should immediately be cancelled subject to legal processes as may be required.
2. No renewal, extension or new licence/permits be issued in future for fishing to joint venture/charter/lease/test fishing vessels.
3. All licences/permits for fishing may be made public documents and copy thereof made available for inspection in the office of the registered authority.
4. The area already being exploited or which may be exploited in the medium term by fishermen operating traditional craft or mechanised vessels below 20m size should not be permitted for exploitation by any vessels below 20m length except currently operated Indian vessels which may operate in the current area for only 3 years subject to the recommendations 1 & 7.
5. Since the Indian mechanised boats below 20m size have the capacity to fish in depth upto about 70-90m; on the west coast, the distance from the shore represented by 150m depth line should be out of bounds for all vessels of more than 20m length except vessels mentioned at Para 4. Where the 150m distance upto 100 nautical miles should be reserved for Indian vessels less than 20m length. On the east coast, starting from Kanyakumari, Indian vessels below 20m size would have exclusive access upto 100m depth or 50 nautical miles from the shore whichever is farther except relaxation in Para 4. The depth zone would also be defined by coordinates, indicating distance from the shore. Distance will be determined by National Hydrographic office/Coast Guard/Fishery Survey of India.
6. In regard to Andaman & Nicobar and the Lakshadweep groups of islands, a distance of 50 nautical miles from the shore would be reserved exclusively for Indian vessels below

20m length with proviso at Para 4. Further, if so required, the limit would be defined taking into account the need to keep waters between islands reserved exclusively for Indian vessels, even if some portions fall beyond the limit to 50 nautical miles.

7. In the area open to the vessels above 20m length, resource specific vessels for tuna and tune like fishes, squids and cuttle fish, deep-sea, fin-fishes in mid-water or pelagic regions and oceanic tuna may be allowed for exploitation by tuna long lining, tuna purse seining, squid jigging and mid-water trawling, provided these are defacto Indian owned registered vessels. The Indian owners should account for at least 51% debt as well as equity.
8. The fleet size for different fishing grounds may be fixed taking into account of the maximum sustainable yield and the need for conservation of resources.
9. In order to conserve fishery resources in our waters, to protect fishermen and to reduce conflicts in the sea, deep-sea fishing regulations should be enacted by the Parliament after consulting the fishing community.
10. For preventing conflicts between the traditional, small mechanised, larger deep-sea vessels strict vigilance to be exercised by the Coast Guard. To attain this objective the Coast Guard should be strengthened, expanded, upgraded technically with the State-of-the-art system of navigation, surveillance and weaponry and properly tasked to prevent poaching by foreign vessels and observance of zone restricted by indigenous vessels. In case Coast Guard is not able to perform the task then by some other agency State or Central, would be identified to ensure that those vessels excluded from specific areas do not violate prohibitions.
11. The Government should take active steps as well as make finance available for upgradation of technological skills and equipment used by the traditional fishermen, for mechanised boats and the Indian deep-sea fishing fleet so that each can effectively fish in the areas concessional finance should be made available for both navigational as well as fishing equipment aimed at competence upgradation to the State-of-the-art level to all the three categories with priority to the traditional sector.
12. Traditional and small mechanised sector would be assisted by adequate regular supply of fuel and by providing HSD and kerosene and by providing subsidy taking into account the benefits given to deep sea fishing vessels.
13. All types of marine fisheries should come under one Ministry. The Government should also consider setting up a Fishery Authority of India to function in the manner in which such authorities set up in other countries function and to be responsible for formulation of policies as well as implementation.
14. The Fishery Survey of India should also be technically upgraded by induction of the modern technology and equipment so that it can identify and map the location of all types of fish, study impact of different technologies and ecological changes. There should be proper co-ordination and co-operation between the National Remote Sensing Agencies and the Fishery Survey of India for this purpose.
15. The Government should given priority to the creation of the infrastructure needed for preventing wastage of fishery resources, which is occurring through throwing away by-catch. This may be achieved by providing a chain of cold storages, ice factories, fish processing facilities, fish meal and feed manufacturing units for value addition to the products of fishermen and their co-operatives.
16. Infrastructure facilities such as fishing harbours for the existing and modern upgraded craft along east and west coasts as well as in island groups of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands may be created on priority basis.
17. Fishermen, fisherwomen and their cooperatives may be provided with financial assistance for upgradation and acquisition of larger vessels for marketing and other related activities.
18. The Government should give priority to training fishermen/fisherwomen in handling new equipments, larger vessels and new fishing technologies besides fish handling and processing aspects.
19. Government should take effective steps to tackle the menace of pollutants/effluents/sewage let out by industries, which affects marine like adversely.
20. Government should take a decision on the recommendations of the committee within a period of six months.

21. The deep sea fishing policy should be revised periodically say every 3-5 years.

*Action Taken on Recommendations of the Murari Committee (1996)*

1. The Murari Committee was appointed in February, 1995 for reviewing the Deep Sea Fishing Policy, 1991 as several objections were raised against the Policy by traditional fishermen. The Committee made 21 recommendations, which were accepted by the Government with minor modifications except for recommendation No. 1. With regard to Recommendation No. 1, the decision of the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) was that currently valid permits/permissions may be examined individually in the light of the provision of the Maritime Zones Act for any violation of the provisions of the Act on any rule or order made thereunder and/or the conditions stipulated in the approvals granted and action for cancellation or otherwise for such approvals decided in individual cases in consultation with the Ministry of Law. This decision was accordingly implemented.
2. The Deep Sea Fishing Policy, 1991 has been rescinded by the Government. No new permits/extension or renewal of permits/permission under Joint Venture, leasing, test Fishing and Charter Policies have been issued since November, 1996.
3. Fishery Survey of India (FSI), Mumbai has been designated as the custodian of all valid permits/permissions under Joint Venture, Leasing and Chartering, which are classified as public documents. The copies of permits/permissions were provided to FSI for the same purpose.
4. Being implemented by State Government through respective Marine Fishery Regulation Acts (MFRA's).
- 5, 6 & 7. Issues raised in their recommendations pertains to delimitation of fishing operations in relation to various classifications of fishing vessels. An Expert group has been constituted in December, 1999 by this Ministry to examine these recommendations for drafting a Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy. The expert Group has since submitted its report in June 2001. Action has been initiated for examination of the recommendations of the Expert Group. Moreover, 32 resource specific deep sea fishing vessels owned by Indian companies holding at least 51%

Indian equity have been allowed to operate in Indian EEZ during 2002-03.

8. A National Level review Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture in September, 1996 to assess the area-wise requirements of different categories of fishing vessels below 20m and conservation of fishery resources etc. The Committee has completed its deliberations and its report has been received by the Government. As per recommendations formalities of new scheme for intermediate type (18m) fishing vessels during 10th Plan period will be taken up.
9. Govt. of India have issued an executive order in November, 2002 to fix up guidelines for fishing operations in Indian EEZ. The guidelines provide for fishing by deep sea fishing vessels only in the areas beyond the areas of operation of traditional and small fishing boats.
10. The Coast Guard is being assisted to procure communication equipments for monitoring operation of fishing vessels in the Indian EEZ. Financial assistance of about Rs. 5.00 crores was provided to the Coast Guard for this purpose. Besides, the Ministry was implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for assisting the maritime States/UTs to effectively implement their Marine Fishing Regulation Acts through acquisition of patrol boats, etc.
- 11&12. The Ministry of Agriculture was implementing scheme for motorisation of traditional crafts by providing subsidy towards the cost of engines and reimbursement of central excise duty on HSD oil to mechanised boats below 20m length upto the end of 9th Plan.
13. The subject of marine fisheries including deep sea fishing has been transferred to the Deptt. of Animal Husbandry & Dairying under Ministry of Agriculture.
14. EFC Memo has already been approved. Global Tender has been published to invite quotations for purchase of 2 tuna longline fishing vessels.
15. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a number of schemes for creation of infrastructure for cold chains and processing of fish in addition to Research and Development in fish Processing.
16. The Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for

construction of fishing harbours and fish landing centres. So far, 6 major fishing harbours, 50 minor fishing harbours and 184 fish landing centres have been sanctioned under the scheme. out of these, 6 major fishing harbours, 33 minor fishing harbours and 130 fish landing centres have been completed. The programme for development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres under the scheme has been continued in the 10th Five Year Plan period (2002-07).

17. The State Governments are implementing various schemes with the assistance of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited (FISCHOPFED), etc.
18. The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for providing training to fishers for skill upgradation. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also formulated a scheme for training of fisher folk in processing, etc. and for strengthening of traditional fish processing technologies and in marketing.
19. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have been assigned the task for combating the impact of pollution on marine life.
- 20 and 21. The recommendations of the Murari Committee as accepted by the Government are being enforced and implemented. Regarding deep sea fishing policy, the Ministry has established an Expert Group, which has been mandated with the task of evolving a Comprehensive policy for Marine Fisheries. The Expert Group has since submitted its report in June 2001. Action has been initiated for examination of the recommendations of the Expert Group.

#### **Employment of Contract Labour**

\*527. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring forward a new legislation on employment of contract labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of proposed legislation;

(c) whether this would enable industries to hire labour on a temporary basis on market demand;

(d) if so, whether this will not result in the hiring and firing of labour; and

(e) if so, the rationale behind such a move?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (e) In wake of economic liberalization as well as judgements of various courts, and on the basis of experience gathered in the administration of the Act, the Government have undertaken a review of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. The amendments, which may be effected in the Act have not yet been finalised.

#### **Decline in Agriculture Investment**

\*530. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the share of investment in agriculture as is evident by fall in the percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 1.6% in 1993-94 to 1.3% in subsequent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to increase the investment in agriculture;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The share of investment in agriculture measures in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) declined from 1.6% in 1993-94 to 1.3% in 2001-02 in real terms (at 1993-94 prices).

(b) the decline in the share of agricultural GCF in the GDP reflects the significant decline in the GCF in public sector during the period 1993-94 to 2001-02. While public sector GCF in agriculture declined in 5 years during this period, in the private sector it declined in two years only. Besides, while the GCF in public sector increased by only 7.3% from Rs. 4,467 crore in 1993-94 to Rs. 4,794 crore in 2001-02, it increased by 46.5% in the private sector during the same period. In consequence, the share of public sector in total GCF in agriculture has come down from 33.0% in 1993-94 to 26.5% in 2001-02.

(c) to (e) The steps taken by the Government to boost investment in agriculture include a wide range covering irrigation, land development, research, training, credit and marketing. Increasing credit availability to the

farmers, augmenting irrigation facilities, construction of rural roads, introduction of technology for increasing production of high valued horticultural crops, etc. in the public sector not only raise public investment but serve as a catalyst for investment in the private sector. In this context the proposals made in the Union Budget for 2003-04 assume importance. These include formulation of a new central scheme on Hi-tech Horticulture and Precision Farming, greater access to credit through measures like encouraging private banks to open branches in rural areas and promoting Self-Help Group (SHG)-Bank Linkage programme propagated by NABARD, particularly in States which lag behind in this regard.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of Labour Courts

\*531. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:  
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up additional Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals and Lok Adalats for speedy disposal of labour related cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) the number of pending cases and the number of cases disposed of through these courts upto March 2003, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for early settlement of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) There are at present 17 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts in different parts of the country. No additional Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court has been set up during the last two years. However nine Lok-Adalats were organised by four Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts at Delhi, Kanpur, Chandigarh and Hyderabad.

(c) The number of cases disposed off and pending in 17 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts up to March, 2003 are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) It has been decided to open five more Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts, one each at Ahmedabad, Ernakulam, Guwahati, Chandigarh and Delhi during the financial year. A new plan scheme of adjudication of disputes through Lok-Adalats has been proposed during the 10th Five Year Plan to expedite settlement of pending cases.

#### Statement

*Cases pending/disposed off in the CGITs (State-wise)—*

*upto March 2003*

Sl.No.	State	Name of the CGITs	Upto March, 2003			
			Cases		Applications	
			Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	West Bengal	Asansol	83	403	5	82
		Kolkata	86	149	45	157
2.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad I	143	1733	36	374
		Dhanbad II	343	1281	38	347
3.	Maharashtra	Mumbai I	65	187	38	43
		Mumbai II	138	321	162	340
		Nagpur	70	64	7	00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	168	1237	7	543
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	33	630	187	632
		Lucknow	197	330	20	28
6.	Delhi	New Delhi	234	1154	39	302
7.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	37	100	83	75
8.	Karnataka	Bangalore	125	304	48	148
9.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	317	309	163	28
10.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar	95	381	20	82
11.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	44	526	117	707
12.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	391	1789	86	297
		Total	2569	10898	1101	4185

[English]

#### Fleet Expansion Plan of National Carriers

\*532. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:  
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up an ambitious fleet expansion plan of the national carriers for the ensuing five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the source of mobilising funds required for the expansion of the fleet;

(d) whether the Government propose to acquire small aircraft for operating on the routes which are not congested; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has proposed to acquire 43 new aircraft for replacement of the entire fleet of old aircraft and for capacity expansion. Air India also has plans to acquire new aircraft in order to phase out the older aircraft, rationalise its fleet and expand capacity. The proposal of Air India is yet to be received in the Ministry for Government approval.

(c) As per international practice and as was done by Air India and Indian Airlines on earlier occasions, the two national carriers will raise fund for fleet acquisition through commercial borrowings in international/Indian market.

(d) and (e) At present no proposal of the two airlines for purchase of small aircraft is under consideration. With the financial assistance of North-Eastern Council Indian Airlines has recently inducted four small aircraft on lease which are being operated in the North-Eastern States.

#### Finance by KVIC to Bio-diesel Producers

\*533. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has decided to finance units producing bio-diesel in the country;

(b) if so, the details alongwith policy of KVIC to encourage production of bio-diesel;

(c) the pattern of financial assistance assured by KVIC in this matter;

(d) by when such plants under the aegis of KVIC are to be fully operation; and

(e) the steps being taken by KVIC to reduce other non-productive activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Maintenance of Ancient Heritage

\*534. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken adequate steps to protect, develop and maintain the ancient heritage of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds proposed to be earmarked for this purpose; and

(c) the name of the States where the above amount is proposed to be spent for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) The Archaeological Survey of India has substantially increased allocation amounting of Rs. 122.02 crore for the year 2003-2004 towards protection, conservation, chemical treatment and environmental development of the ancient heritage of all states excepting the state of Mizoram where there is no centrally protected monument.

[English]

### Flood Control Projects

\*535. SHRI C.N. SINGH:  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flood control projects in the country under construction, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which the damage caused by floods is expected to be reduced on completion of these projects; and

(c) the time by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Flood Management being a State subject, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves as per their own priorities out of their State plan funds which are made available to them through Planning Commission. The assistance rendered by Central Government are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Government of India at present is providing central assistance through Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes to various States in the flood sector, the details of which alongwith the extent to which the damage caused by floods are expected to be reduced on completion of these schemes and the likely time by which these schemes would be completed are given at statements-I to V attached.

### Statement-I

*Project under construction in the flood sector under Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes*

NAME OF THE SCHEME : CRITICAL ANTI-EROSION WORKS IN GANGA BASIN STATES

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Estt. Cost (lakh)	Extent of losses suffered from floods expected to be curtailed				Likely date of completion
			Protected Area (ha.)	Population	Land Erosion	Public Utility Road/Buildings etc.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BIHAR							
1	(i) Scheme for Construction of Jarlahi 2nd retired line with 5 nos. of spurs, (ii) K.A.S 3rd retired line with 3 nos. of spurs & (iii) 5th K.J. retired line with 2 nos. of spurs	1701 (Modified to Rs. 1462 lakh)	11850	Population of 25 villages	—	Ganga-Darjeeling Road at Karhagola Gurudwara, Railway line & GD-Road Police Station	2003-04
2.	P/E for Ameerabad Goagachi revetment and construction of bed bar on L/B of river Ganga	432	25165	Population of 106 villages	—	Kantakosh ring bund, Lalbathani Dewel at Goagachi	Reported to be completed



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Flood Protection works on L/B on river Ganga near village Hassanpur for protection of Hazipur Mahnar road	302	1500	50,600	—	Hajipur-Mahnar PWD Road	Reported to be completed
4.	Flood Protection works of Neknamtola on river Ganga in Bhojpur Distt.	749	9708.50	5000	32.39 ha.	Pucca House-150 Kutchha house-285	2003-04
5.	Schemes for protection from erosion at R/B of river Ganga at Arjunpur and Umarpur in Buxar Distt.	492	1600	22000	90 ha.	Hutment-190 Pucca House-1200 Kuccha House-2500	Reported to be completed
6.	Anti erosion works at Kasba Rupnagar near Amarpur	726	18500	2,65,000	—	Barauni Refinery Thermal Plant, Fertilizer Plant, Railway Yard and Sudha Dairy at NH-31	2003-04
7.	Anti erosion works for protection of erosion prone Sitab-Diara (Bihar Portion)	326	1600	15,000	—	Pucca House-150 Kutchha House-320	2003-04
8.	Raising and strengthening of Champaran Embankment	749	157532	75,00,000	—	Pucca House—150 Kutchha House—20056	2003-04

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Estt. Cost (lakh)	Likely date of completion	Protected Area (ha.)	Population	Land Erosion	Public Utility		
							Road	Building	Houses
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## WEST BENGAL

1.	Protection to the R/B of river Ganga from d/s of Farakka barrage upto Jalangi at vill. Alaipur, mouza Hasanpur & vill. Khanbona, mouza Nashipur in P.S. Bhagawangola, Murshidabad	2940.72	2003-04	570	60,000 no.	Agri-270 Ha. Orchard-100 Ha. Homestead-200 Ha.	St. High way-10 km. Vill.-12 km	School-2 nos. Mosque-3 nos. Temple-1 no. Bazar-1 no.	Pucca-500 nos. Semi Pucca-800 nos. Kutchha-10,000 nos.
2.	Renovation of bed bars on R/B of river Ganga Padma no. S1 (Kakjipara), no. 8 (Arjunpur), U3 & U4 (Hazarpur) and additional new bar at 200 mu/s of N1 at Kuli, Distt. Murshidabad.	398.72	2003-04	16.0	—	Agri-3.23 ha. Orchard-12.15 ha. Homestead-11.34 ha. Wasteland 1 ha.	Pucca-3 km Semi Pucca-6 km Kachcha-5 km	Madrasa-1 no. School-4 no. Mosque-4 nos. Temple-1 no.	Pucca-192 nos. Semi Pucca-463 nos. Kutchha-702 nos.
3.	Extension and restoration of existing bank protection works at Chandrapura (150 m) in P.S. Suti, Lalpur (250 m), Lakshimpur (250 m), Maheshpur (150 m), Kakajipara (150 m) in Dhuliyen, Kuli (200 m) in P.S. Farakka, Distt. Murshidabad.	535.75	2003-4	19.00	—	Agri-0.50 ha. Orchard-8 ha. Homestead-10.02 ha. Wasteland-0.35 ha.	Semi Pucca-3 km. Vill. Road-525 km Other metal Rd. L.S.	Madrasa-1 no. School-6 no. Mosque-1 nos. Temple-2 nos. Bazar-L.S.	Pucca-505 nos. Semi Pucca-420 nos. Kutchcha-925 nos.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Bank protection works over 6th retired embankment near Khaskoi, Doulatola in P.S. & block Manichak & English bazar Malda.	557.18	Completed	38949	—	Agri-1127 Ha. Orchard-282 Ha. Homestead-282 Ha. Wasteland-187 Ha.			

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Estt. Cost (lakh)	Extent of losses suffered from floods expected to be curtailed				Likely date of Completion
			Protected Area (ha)	Population	Land Erosion (ha)	Public Utility Road/ Buildings etc.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

## UTTAR PRADESH

1(a)	Flood management works on the left bank of river Ganga for protection of NH-19, Ballia-Bairia embankment except Sherpur village Distt.-Ballia	511	24800	4500	10.5	35000 houses	Reported to be Completed
1(b)	Scheme for protection of 25 Tubewell clusters near Sherpur village, on river Ganga in Distt. Gazipur	123.50	51.0	—	—	25 tubewell cluster	2003-04
2.	Flood protection works of Raunahi embankment from 0.6 to 1.7 km right banks of river Ghaghra, in Distt. Faizabad	310.00	35000	15376	21	1324 houses 4 km road	2003-04
3.	Flood Protection works Ahirauli dan Pipraghat embankment from 1.5 km to 2.2 km on R/B of the river Gandak in Distt. Kushinagar	302.00	8484	45253	17	5000 houses 1 sugar mill 1 cinema hall	2003-04
4.	Food protection works of Bibipur Belauti embankment on right bank of river Ghaghra, in Distt. Mau	376.00	356	9200	100	45 houses	2003-04
5.	Raising and strengthening of Pipra-Piprasi retired embankment along right bank of river Gandak, in Distt. Kushinagar	378.00	32495	—	—	7000 houses 3 sugar mill 2 cinema hall	2003-04
6.	Food Protection works of Vikramjot Dhuswa embankment from 0 to 10.4 km on R/B of river Ghaghra, Distt.-Basti	644.00	10121	187840	—	10 houses	Reported to be Completed

## UTTARANCHAL

1.	Flood protection works of Muni-Ki-Reti on R/B of the river Ganga in Rishikesh, in Distt. Tehri Garhwal	335.00	9	—	9	109 houses	2003-04
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**Statement-II***Project under construction in the flood sector under Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes*

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Likely Benefits Towards area protected from Floods. (Ha.)	Likely date of Completion
<b>ASSAM</b>				
1.	Avulsion of Brahmaputra at Dholla, Hatighuli (measure for diversion of the river to its original course with ancilliary A/E measure)	1047.00	16200	April 2003
2.	Harrange Drainage Development Scheme	3049.00	11850	December 2003
3.	Pagladiya Dam Project (multipurpose project)	54290.00	40000	January 2008

Note: A/E means anti-erosion

**Statement-III***Project under construction in the flood sector under Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes*

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	likely benefits towards area protected from floods	likely date of completion
<b>BIHAR</b>				
1.	Raising, strengthening and extension of embankments along river Lalbakeya and Baghmata			
	Lalbakeya	358.70	The project will protect the thickly populated towns of Gaur Bazar in Nepal and Bargania in India besides many villages including other properties like railway track etc.	31.03.2004
	Bagmati	503.00	It is expected that year-to-year flood losses in respect of damage to crops, houses and public utilities will be considerably curtailed.	31.03.2004

**Statement-IV***Project under construction in the flood sector under Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes*

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	likely benefits towards area protected from floods	likely date of completion
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Maintenance of embankments on Kosi and Gandak rivers in Nepal portion.			
<b>BIHAR</b>				
	Maintenance of embankment on river Kosi	2700.00	Maintenance of the embankments is essential for flood management downstream including	This is a continuing activity

1	2	3	4	5
			protection of eastern/western canal system.	and the work on these embankments is carried out every year before the onset of monsoons to rectify the damages caused by the floods in the preceding year.
UTTAR PRADESH	Maintenance of embankment on river Gandak	800.00	Maintenance of right bank of Gandak in Nepal portion is necessary to check the spill of the river and also to protect western canal which has a vast command area in Nepal, U.P. and Bihar.	

### Statement-V

Project under construction in the flood sector under Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes

#### NAME OF THE SCHEME : COMMON BORDER SCHEMES

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Estt. Cost (lakh)	Extent of losses suffered from floods expected to be curtailed					Likely date of completion	
			Protected Area	Population	Land Erosion	Public Utility			
					Road	Building	Houses		
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>									
1.	Protection to the Left Bank of river Atari from erosion at Rai-Nanda and Krishnapur, Dt. Dakshin Dinajpur	42.85	500 Ha.	5000	Agri-10 Ha.	Mettalic Road-425 M	Sub Post Office-1 Nos. Staff Qutr. 3 Nos. Pump House-1 no.	Pucca-10 nos. Semi Pucca-70 nos. Kutichcha -40 nos.	Under Progress
2.	Renovation of existing protection work in the Right bank of river Ganga/Padma at Lalpara-Ghoshpura, Mouza Lalpur, Dt. Murshidabad	110.00	9.00 Ha.	Not available	Homestead-11.12 acre	Municipal Road-3 km.	School-1 no. Temple-1 no. Dharam-shala-1 no.	Pucca-78 nos. Semi Pucca-30 nos.	Under Progress
3.	Construction of 3 nos. bed bars towards downstream at a distance of 100 m of the existing protection works at vill. Chintamony under Mouza, Dt. Murshidabad	313.20	22.50 Ha.	6000 nos.	Agri-3.38 Ha. Orchard-5.62 Ha. Homestead-12.38 Ha. Wasteland-1.12 Ha.	Vill. Rd. 5 km Embakt Road 1 km St. Highway 1 km	School-1 no. Mosque-1 no. Temple 1 no.	Pucca-15 nos. Semi Pucca-200 nos. Kuticha -400 nos.	Under Progress
<b>PUNJAB</b>									
	Counter remedial measures on river Ravi and Sutlej in the border districts of Amritsar, Ferozpur and Gurdaspur—protecting the border outposts, border fencing and cultivable land.	149.50			Ferozpur district—protection of Mohammadiwala and Kassoke Amritsar district—protection of Kalkiamani and Chaharpur				2003
<b>ASSAM</b>									
1.	Bank stabilization measures on Left bank of river Kushiyara at Steamer ghat area o Karimganj town, Dt. Karimganj, length-110 m	96.00	5.83	3500	5.83 Ha.	—	Cinema Hall, CWC Offices, etc.	127	Under Progress

[*Translation*]

### **Statutory Powers to ICAR**

\*536. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give any statutory powers to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of Agricultural Universities in the country are facing severe financial crunch and are unable to provide quality education as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to provide adequate funds to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) There is a general financial crunch as indicated in the report of the Committee on Agriculture Education entitled "Education for Agriculture: Bridge to a Century of Hope on the Farm Front". The committee recommended an allocation of 1% equivalent of GDP both at the Central and State Level for Agricultural Research and Education, of which atleast 20% both at the Centre and State should be for the Agricultural Education. The IXth Plan allocation to ICAR amounted to about 0.3% of AGDP of which 11.7% was allocated for Agricultural Education. In addition Central Agriculture University (CAU) was supported 100% by ICAR. The Committee felt that adequate grant is necessary for bringing about improvements in the standards of Agricultural Education. Despite financial constraints, all out efforts have been made to maintain the quality of Agricultural Education by providing central support to State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and CAU from the ICAR for critical areas of education.

(d) and (e) The major responsibility to support Agricultural Education rests with the respective States. However, keeping in view, the necessity of ensuring quality of Agricultural Education, during the Xth Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs. 1322.65 crores was made for Agricultural Education by the ICAR, out of its proposed

total outlay of Rs. 16000 crores (including Rs. 1000 crores as catch-up grant). However, ICAR received Xth Plan allocation of Rs. 5368 crores out of which it made an allocation of Rs. 559 crores (excluding Rs. 68 crores for the establishment of Jammu University) for Agricultural Education. In addition the CAU has been allocated Rs. 225 crores for the Xth Plan.

### **Fleet Expansion by IA**

\*537. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any pressure on the Government of India regarding selection and procurement of aircraft for the Indian Airlines from a particular company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to procure 43 aircraft from Airbus Industry, a European Company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Airlines Limited submitted a Project Report to this Ministry in April, 2002 for acquisition of 43 aircraft comprising A-319, A-320 and A-321 from Airbus Industries during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08 at a net cost of Rs. 10,089 crores.

(d) The Project Report is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

### **Hospitals for Beedi Workers**

\*538. SHRI VERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Beedi Workers are not getting adequate medical facilities in various States;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of hospitals and dispensaries set up in various States including Madhya Pradesh for the treatment of Beedi Workers;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up new hospitals and dispensaries in the country to cater to the need of the Beedi Workers during the Tenth Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) A number of welfare schemes in the fields of health care are in operation throughout the country for the welfare of beedi workers through hospitals and dispensaries run by Labour Welfare Organization of Ministry of Labour, Government of India. Most of the dispensaries have been provided with vehicles for doing mobile duties to provide wider health coverage to workers spread out in far-flung rural areas. In addition to these facilities, there is also a system of re-imbusement of medical expenditure for the treatment of serious diseases in specialized hospitals.

(c) There are four hospitals and 207 dispensaries throughout the country including 25 dispensaries in Madhya Pradesh, being run by Labour Welfare Organization, Ministry of Labour to cater to the health care needs of the beedi workers.

(d) and (e) There are three hospitals each at Sagar (Madhya Pradesh), Bihar Sharif (Bihar) and Mukkudal (Tamilnadu) under construction. Hospital at Bihar Sharif was sanctioned in April, 2001 and other two were sanctioned in October, 2001 with the condition that construction work be completed in 30 months. The task of construction has been assigned to Central Public Work Department.

### **Bhojshala Issue**

\*539. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any directives to the Government of Madhya Pradesh to open Bhojshala temple in Dhar district for Puja by Hindus;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) After a brief exchange of correspondence about the manner in which the protected monument of Bhojshala should be opened, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh made certain suggestions/recommendations. These suggestions and decisions of the Central Government are contained in Statement-I. Subsequently, the State Government wanted formal orders issued by Director-General, ASI. The requisite order was issued and a copy of the order is attached as statement-II.

Keeping in view the background of the case and the practical considerations, the solution arrived at was considered to be most sound and feasible. The arrangements have worked satisfactorily. The number of visitors on different days/dates is attached in statement-III.

### **Statement-I**

*The views of the ASI/Department of Culture, Government of India, on each of the recommendations made by the State Government in Letter No. F.44-1-96/C-1, dated February 21, 2003*

Recommendations of the Collector and District Magistrate	Views of ASI/Department of Culture
1	2
(i) That the Muslim community shall be allowed access to the premises as at present for the Friday Namaaz between 1 to 3 p.m.	Concurred
(ii) That the Hindu community shall be permitted access to the premises to hold traditional ceremonies on the occasion of Basant Panchami every year.	Concurred

1

2

- (iii) The Hindu community shall be permitted access to the premises between 0900 and 1100 hours every Tuesday whilst prohibiting any slogans, pooja or havan in the premises or bringing of any idol or photographs of the deity or any pooja material.
- (iv) Apart from the relaxations suggested at (i) and (ii) above, the premises should also be opened to tourists, at a charge, each day between prescribed hours.
- (v) In order to prevent any damage to this protected Monument, the ASI shall ensure stationing adequate number of requisite personnel at the site.
- (vi) Adequate Central Para Military Force shall be posted to protect his monument as is being done to protect other similar monuments.
- (vii) The duration of access to the premises each day may be fixed in accordance with ASI rules as applicable to Protected Monuments.

Concurred, subject to the modification that the access would be given free of cost throughout the day, every Tuesday, that is, from sunrise to sunset—the normal time fixed for opening and closure of the protected monument. On that day, the visitor could take a flower or two and a few grains of rice.

On all other days, an entry fee of Rupee 1.00 per person would be charged. Children (up to the age of 15) would be given free entry. The collection from this charge would be spent for the upkeep of the Bhojshala.

as in any other protected monuments, a small watch and ward staff would be kept. But the responsibility for maintenance of law and order and ensuring safety and security of the buildings/visitors should be that of Collector and District magistrate/State Government. In this connection, attention is invited to provisions of sub-section 2 of Section 16 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. This Section, *inter alia*, requires: "...The Collector shall make due provisions for the protection of such monument or part thereof..."

Concurred

### **Statement-II**

F.No. 33-41/97-M. (pt)

Dated: 7.4.2003

### **ORDER**

I, Gauri Chatterji, Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, in exercise of the powers conferred on me vide Rule 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 1959, and in partial modification of order No. F. No. 11/5/97-M dated February 5, 1998, do hereby direct that the centrally protected monument, Bhojshala-Kamal Maulana Mosque at Dhar shall remain open on the following basis:

1. That the Muslim community shall be allowed access to the premises as at present for Friday Namaaz between 1 to 3 p.m.
2. That the Hindu community shall be permitted access to the premises to hold traditional

ceremonies on the occasion of Basant Panchami every year.

3. That the Hindu community shall be permitted access to the premises, free of charge, every Tuesday from sunrise to sunset—the normal time fixed for opening and closure of the protected monument. On that day, the visitor could take a flower or two and a few grains of rice.
4. That apart from the relaxations enumerated above, the premises shall be open to tourists on all other days. An entry fee of Rupee 1.00 per person will be charged. Children (upto the age of 15) would be given free entry.

The order shall come into force with immediate effect and until further orders.

Sd/  
(Gauri Chatterji)  
Director-General.

**Statement-III**

*The inflow of visitors to Bhojshala between 8.4.2003 to 25.4.2003*

Date	Number of Visitors
08.04.2003	8679 Tuesday
09.04.2003	468
10.04.2003	554
11.04.2003	1200 Friday
12.04.2003	351
13.04.2003	346
14.04.2003	342
15.04.2003	4553 Tuesday
16.04.2003	313
17.04.2003	438
18.04.2003	1461 Friday
19.04.2003	272
20.04.2003	613
21.04.2003	423
22.04.2003	3855 Tuesday
23.04.2003	209
24.04.2003	303
25.04.2003	1276 Friday

**Irrigation Potential**

\*540. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether additional irrigation potential created through components of projects covered under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is much less as against the ultimate irrigation potential as brought out by the Standing Committee on Agriculture during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for the shortcomings in the programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the targeted irrigation potential expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves.

Concerned with a large number of major and medium irrigation projects spilling over into IX Plan, the Central Government launched the Accelerate Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 for accelerating implementation of such ongoing irrigation/multi-purpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resources capability of the State Governments and for other major and medium irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of completion and could yield irrigation benefits in next four agricultural seasons. Upto 2000, 112 major/medium irrigation projects were included under AIBP. The ultimate irrigation potential of these projects were 13801 thousand hectare out of which irrigation potential of 817 thousand hectare were created by the end of 1999-2000. Gradually the projects under the programme increased to 150 by 2001-02 and an irrigation potential of 1974 thousand hectare has been created upto March, 2002. A total of 21 projects could be completed after commencement of programme and potential of 404.48 thousand hectare was created on completion of these projects. As on 31st March, 2003, 172 Major/Medium and 5382 minor irrigation schemes have been provided with Central Loan Assistance (CLA) amounting to Rs. 11541.7314 crore. When the AIBP was commenced in 1996-97 the schemes included were in a dormant stage. Considering the period of completion of 10 to 15 years for major projects and 5 years for medium irrigation projects, the additional potential could flow only after 4 to 5 years. The Planning Commission reviewed the programme and identified the shortcomings like shortage of funds with States, delay in timely release of funds to the projects from the State's Finance Department, delay in providing required approvals, land acquisition problems, change in scope of work, technical snag, etc. Further, completion of head works and idle length of canals were also not adding to the creation of potential.

To overcome such shortcomings periodic review of the programme was taken up and modifications in the guidelines introduced from time to time to make the programme effective and achieve the targets. The funds were released in the form of CLA on matching basis. Considering the poor financial position of the States, funding pattern under AIBP was revised in 1997-98 and in 1999-2000. According to revised funding pattern with effect from 1999-2000, the CLA is being released to the



Special Category States comprising the North Eastern States, hilly States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Sikkim as well as Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa in 3:1 (Centre : State) ratio, whereas, the ratio is 2 : 1 for other General Category States. In addition, all minor projects (both ongoing and new) of the Special Category States and KBK districts of Orissa are also being provided CLA in 3:1 ratio. AIBP Guidelines have been further modified with effect from February, 2002 to give incentive to reforming States by providing CLA in the ratio of 1:0 (Centre : State) for Special Category States and 4:1 (Centre : State) for General Category. Projects which can be completed in one year (two working seasons) are included under Fast Track Programme, a component of AIBP, and provided with 100% CLA.

#### **Exploitation of Contract Labourers**

\*541. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of workers employed through contractors is on the rise in the country since the WTO labour reforms programme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties and exploitation of contract labourers; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The employers often resort to contract labour for reasons like uncertainty of work, cost effectiveness, flexibility in manpower deployment, concentration on core competencies etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government have enacted the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 with a view to prevent exploitation of contract labour. It provides for abolition of contract labour, wherever possible and practicable, in certain circumstances and in other cases regulation of their working conditions so as to ensure payment of wages and other amenities relating to their welfare and health. An adequate industrial relations machinery is already in existence to enforce the provisions

of the Act/Rules framed thereunder and to safeguard their interests.

[*Translation*]

#### **Bonded Labourers**

\*542. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:  
SHRI A. NARENDRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Anti-Slavery International has asked the Government to undertake a comprehensive national survey as recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to identify the total number of bonded labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of bonded labourers estimated during the last three years, till-date including tribal areas of various States, State-wise;

(d) the number of bonded labourers freed/rehabilitated in the country, State-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to ameliorate their pitiable condition?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The International Labour Organisation's Conference Committee on the Application of Standards at its 88th (June, 2000) Session, urged the Government of India to undertake a comprehensive and authoritative survey for identification of bonded labour. The Anti-Slavery International submitted a report to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) in August, 2001. It was *inter-alia* recommended in the report of the Anti-Slavery International that the Indian Government should ensure that a comprehensive national survey is carried out to identify the total number of bonded labourers in the country, utilising the services of an independent body to assist in developing the methodology and conducting the survey.

(c) The number of bonded labourers identified and released during the last three years including tribal areas of various States, State-wise are given in Statement-I.

(d) The number of bounded labourers freed/rehabilitated in the country, State-wise and year-wise are given in Statement-II.

(e) In order to assist the State Governments in the task of rehabilitation of bonded labourers, the Government of India has been implementing a Centrally, Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers since 1978. Under this Scheme rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 20,000 per bonded labour is provided, which is shared by the Central and the State Government on 50:50 basis, and in case of the North-Eastern States, 100% Central assistance is provided. Guidelines have been issued regarding implementation of the Scheme to design rehabilitation package in the form of land-based, non-land based, skilled/craft based, depending upon the local conditions and keeping in view the needs of the released bonded labourers.

**Statement-I**

*Number of Bonded Labourers Freed/Rehabilitated in the Country during the last three years*

Year	Name of the State	No. of bonded labourers freed/rehabilitated
1	2	3
2000-2001	Arunachal Pradesh	1576
	Rajasthan	24
	Tamil Nadu	3656

1	2	3
2001-2002	Bihar	28
	Haryana	7
	Maharashtra	14
	Karnataka	36
	Tamil Nadu	3844
2002-2003	Bihar	125
	Karnataka	1854
	Haryana	21
	Maharashtra	5
	Punjab	69
	Chhattisgarh	124

**Statement-II**

*Number of Bonded Labourers Freed and Rehabilitated State-wise and year-wise so far*

Year	Arunachal Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	Karnataka	Kerala	Madhya Pradesh	Maharashtra	Orissa	Punjab	Rajasthan	Tamil Nadu	Uttar Pradesh	Chhattisgarh
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1978-79	—	2000	625	—	—	1512	83	850	—	1256	—	797	10266	1500	—
1979-80	—	2387	331	—	—	1357	30	—	—	1050	—	527	—	500	—
1980-81	—	1959	1117	—	—	7258	—	—	—	1511	—	518	85	842	—
1981-82	—	1630	452	—	—	4209	76	86	—	5531	—	18	50	1912	—
1982-83	—	—	362	—	—	4509	—	90	—	9554	—	958	10654	4520	—
1983-84	—	—	1812	20	—	7400	329	3691	—	1530	—	618	1310	2786	—
1984-85	—	7946	1516	—	21	2010	=	103	—	10577	—	1000	10240	6121	—
1985-86	—	2990	850	24	—	6115	=	—	1300	3412	—	234	6258	5712	—
1986-87	—	500	702	20	—	2698	=	—	—	2076	—	767	—	3281	—
1987-88	—	—	345	—	—	—	=	—	—	1253	—	130	—	145	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1988-89	—	—	638	—	—	3613	=	—	—	2165	—	135	—	150	—
1989-90	—	—	106	—	—	4389	=	4341	—	1216	—	242	—	—	—
1990-91	—	—	2035	—	—	—	—	2736	—	1130	—	—	—	—	—
1991-92	—	—	105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1992-93	—	1950	356	—	—	5600	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1993-94	—	4638	175	—	—	3381	192	—	—	1134	—	54	51	—	—
1994-95	—	1920	743	—	—	1180	—	—	—	1113	—	105	786	—	—
1995-96	—	1632	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1152	—	114	—	—	—
1996-97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1148	—	—	175	—	—
1997-98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6000	—	—
1998-99	—	—	98	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	5578	249	—
1999-00	1416	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	6620	79	—
2000-01	1576	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	3656	—	—
2001-02	—	—	28	—	7	36	—	—	14	—	—	—	3844	—	—
2002-03	—	—	125	—	21	1854	—	—	5	—	69	—	—	—	124
Total	2992	29552	12521	64	49	57121	710	11897	1319	46843	69	6321	65573	27797	124

[English]

### Steel Authority of India Limited

5243. SHRI Y.V. RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) purposes to set up its sponge iron plant; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its proposed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) The proposal to set up a Sponge Iron Plant by SAIL is at the conceptual stage, and will be considered once its feasibility and viability are established.

[Translation]

### Raising of Ground Water Level

5244. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of constructing ponds/anicut/dams in rural areas has been going on since 1990-01 for raising ground water level through water harvesting;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of rain water going waste by flowing into rivers and nallahs and the total land likely to be irrigated with the water; and

(d) the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources had started a Central Sector Scheme on pilot basis in 1994-95 for studies in artificial recharge of ground water under which, construction of ponds/check dams/percolation tanks/recharge shafts and other rain water harvesting structures were taken up for raising ground water level.

The studies were completed in 1997-98 at a cost of Rs. 3.30 crore. Based on the results of these studies, the scheme was extended during the IX Five Year Plan (1998-2002) under which, 174 recharge projects in 27 States/Union Territories were approved for implementation during the IX Plan is given in enclosed statement.

(c) There is an average annual precipitation (including snowfall) of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. Out of this, the annual average flow in the river systems of the country is 1869 BCM and the annual replenishable ground water use resource is about 432 BCM. 605 BCM is being presently utilised through surface and ground water resources. Rest of the water flows down into the sea out of which, certain quantity of water is required for ecological needs of the rivers. The rain water harvesting is being undertaken by various States, private agencies, NGOs etc., at different sites. No assessment of the quantum of rain water being harvested and utilised for different purposes in the country has been made.

(d) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Government has initiated following measures for rain water harvesting in the country:—

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for study of recharge to ground water in the country.
- (ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses in rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (iv) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (v) Launching of website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting ([www.cgwbindia.com](http://www.cgwbindia.com)) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rain water and store it for future use.

### **Statement**

*State-wise No. of Recharge Projects approved under the Central Ground Water Board's Scheme on 'Study of Recharge to Ground Water' during the IX Five Year Plan*

S.No.	Name of State/Union Territory	No. of Project
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10
2.	Assam	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Bihar	2
5.	Gujarat	3
6.	Haryana	8
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6
8.	Jharkhand	5
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8
10.	Karnataka	2
11.	Kerala	13
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5
13.	Maharashtra	4
14.	Meghalaya	1
15.	Mizoram	1
16.	Nagaland	3
17.	Orissa	8
18.	Punjab	17
19.	Rajasthan	18
20.	Tamil Nadu	10
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10
22.	Uttaranchal	1
23.	West Bengal	7
24.	NCT of Delhi	18
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	3
26.	Lakshadweep	2
27.	Chandigarh	7
<b>Total</b>		<b>174</b>

*[English]***Grounding of Flights**

5245. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India propose to ground the Guwahati-Bangkok flight; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Launching of Cold Rolled Steelium**

5246. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Steel has launched its first branded Cold Rolled Steel Tata Steelium;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Plants/Sectors where it is to be supplied?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. launched its first branded Cold Rolled Steel "Tata Steelium" on 27th

February, 2003 at Goa. The Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (TISCO) claims that the brand represents superior product quality and reliable service, and it helps the consumer (fabricators) identity with a reliable and trusted product that creates value for him and his customers. TISCO considers that they benefit from the branding as it helps in building customer loyalty and creates a value conscious segment.

(c) Tata Steelium is branded Cold Rolled Steel and is supplied for furniture, drums/barrels, light engineering, appliances and auto ancillaries segments.

*[Translation]***Development of Wheat Varieties with Less Water**

5247. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural scientists have developed wheat varieties which require less water but provide better yield;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely yield per hectare of such wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of such important wheat varieties recommended for different states with their average yield per hectare are given in statement-I.

**Statement**

*List of Important Wheat Varieties suitable for rainfed areas of the country requiring comparatively Less Water*

Name of variety	Average yield q/ha.	Area of Adoption
1	2	3
PBW-396	33.30	Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Western Uttar Pradesh, Parts of Rajasthan including Alwar, Bharatpur, Sriganganagar and Una and Paonta valley of Himachal Pradesh
HD-4672 (Durum)	22.0	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Southern parts of Rajasthan, Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

1	2	3
VL-804	23.50	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim and North Eastern States
C-306	25.80	Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa and Assam
K-8027	26.50	Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa and Assam
HD-2781	15.80	Karnataka and Maharashtra
K-9644	12.40	Karnataka and Maharashtra

#### **Civil Aviation Scheme in Maharashtra**

5248. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of civil aviation schemes launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan in Maharashtra;
- (b) the progress made thereunder till-date;
- (c) whether the work on these schemes is going as per the schedule;
- (d) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon, till-date; and
- (e) the total amount sanctioned for these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The details of major civil aviation schemes launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan in Maharashtra are given below:

- (i) Construction of new International Terminal Complex (Phase III), and construction of aerobridge at Bay No. 17, 18 & 19 alongwith Security Hold Area at Terminal 1 and other miscellaneous engineering works were carried out at Mumbai airport.
- (ii) Construction of New Terminal Building, extension of apron, new Taxiway and Modification of old Terminal Building into Cargo Complex at Nagpur airport.
- (iii) Strengthening of Runway at Aurangabad Airport.

(b) and (c) All the above works were completed during the Ninth Plan Period.

(d) Rs. 103.21 Crores were incurred on the above schemes.

(e) 118.78 Crores were sanctioned during the Ninth Plan.

*[English]*

#### **Pending Forest Developmental Projects**

5249. SHRI KHEL SAI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chhattisgarh Government has sent any proposal to start Bio-fuel Plantation Projects in the State;
- (b) if so, the status of this proposal; and
- (c) the reasons for delay in sanctioning the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No such proposal has been received in this Ministry.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Agricultural Labourers**

5250. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of agricultural labourers in the country State-wise and their percentage to the total population in the respective State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GEOL): A Statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Agricultural Labourers	% of Agricultural labourers to the total Population
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13818754	18.16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18569	1.69
3.	Assam	1289902	4.84
4.	Bihar	13527884	16.32
5.	Chhattisgarh	3088216	14.84
6.	Gujarat	4987657	10.31
7.	Haryana	1276143	6.05
8.	Himachal Pradesh	92761	1.53
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	248577	2.47
10.	Jharkhand	2861939	10.64
11.	Karnataka	6209153	11.77
12.	Kerala	1653601	5.19
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7380878	12.25
14.	Maharashtra	11290945	11.67
15.	Manipur	120991	5.07
16.	Meghalaya	172975	7.50
17.	Nagaland	33852	1.70
18.	Orissa	5001075	13.62
19.	Punjab	1498976	6.16
20.	Rajasthan	2529225	4.48
21.	Sikkim	16939	3.13
22.	Tamil Nadu	8665020	13.95
23.	Tripura	278334	8.72
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13604812	8.19
25.	Uttaranchal	258752	3.05
26.	West Bengal	7350988	9.16
27.	A&N Islands	5092	1.43
28.	Chandigarh	387	0.04
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	14743	6.69

1	2	3	4
30.	Delhi	13559	0.10
31.	Goa	36150	2.69
32.	Daman & Diu	1287	0.81
33.	Lakshadweep	0	0
34.	Mizoram	27494	3.09
35.	Pondicherry	72095	7.40

*[English]***Cleaning of Rivers**

5251. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the scientists of National Environmental Engineering and Research Institute (NEERI) have recently conducted a detailed study about the 'Nag Nadi' in Nagpur to revive the river for providing clean water supply to the city;

(b) if so, whether the report has been finalised;

(c) if so, the funds required to improve the condition of 'Nag Nadi' as also the 'Peeli Nadi'; and

(d) the time by when it is likely to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) An amount of Rs. 1.25 Lakh was released to the National Environmental Engineering and Research Institute (NEERI) in 1999 for survey & investigation of Nag Nadi and Peeli Nadi polluted from the wastewater of Nagpur town. The status of pollution of these rivers and requirement of funds for the project shall be known after a detailed project report based on the survey and investigation is prepared by the State Government.

*[Translation]***Funds to Jharkhand for Tourism Development**

5252. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated/released to Jharkhand Government for development of tourism during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of works executed in the State during the said period;

(c) the schemes formulated by the Government for the purpose; and

(d) the extent to which these schemes have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) During the Ninth Five Year Plan 8 projects with financial assistance of Rs. 286.49 lakhs have been sanctioned in Jharkhand for development of tourist infrastructure.

(c) In the Tenth Plan, the Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Development of Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance for large revenue generating projects whose guidelines have been circulated to all the States for submitting necessary proposals.

(d) So far no such proposal complete in all respects has been received from Jharkhand.

*[English]*

#### **Pending Projects of Maharashtra**

5253. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra had sent a proposal namely Mumbai Trans Harbour Sea Link Project to the Union Government in March, 2001 under which they have proposed a Sea Link connecting Mumbai to the main land to reduce the congestion on the island city by providing impetus for development on main land; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the extant provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 the proposed construction which partly falls in CRZ-I (i) area containing mangroves is not permissible.

*[Translation]*

#### **Impact of CNG on Pollution Control**

5254. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vehicular pollution has declined in Delhi due to the use of CNG fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to make Delhi pollution free;

(d) whether the use of CNG would be made compulsory in respect of other metro cities of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Ambient Air Quality Monitoring data for Delhi reveals that there has generally been improvement in the air quality. This is attributed to the introduction of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) along with other measures taken for control of pollution.

(c) Measures taken to control pollution in Delhi include:—

- Improvement in public transport system
- Phasing out of old vehicles
- Construction of new inter State Bus Terminate/ bypass roads
- Setting up of automated inspection and certification facilities
- Supply of pre-mixed 2-T oil for two stroke vehicles and unleaded petrol
- Expansion of CNG supply outlets
- Setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)
- Shifting of industries from non-conforming areas.

(d) and (e) Action plans have been prepared for metros for switch over to cleaner fuels and CNG has been introduced in Delhi and Mumbai.



[English]

### **Shortage of Water in Rajasthan**

5255. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) a total number of blocks in Rajasthan which have suffered acute shortage of water during the last one year and the number of them which have been declared dark zones during the said period; and

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the State to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources regularly monitors the ground water levels in various parts of the country, including Rajasthan, through a network of National Hydrograph Monitoring Stations. A comparison of May, 2002 water level data with the decade (1992-2001) mean water level data indicates decline upto 2 meters in ground water level in Bundi, Banswara, Dhaulpur, Udaipur, Bharatpur, Baran, Dungarpur, Karauli, Alwar and Jhalawar districts, between 2-4 metres in Sikar, Dausa, Dungarpur, Jhunjhunu and Alwar district and more than 4 meters in Jalore, Sirohi, Bhilwara, Jaipur, Pali, Dausa and Tonk districts of Rajasthan.

The 'dark' blocks are worked out based on ground water resources estimation. Based on such estimation for the State of Rajasthan, there are 74 over-exploited blocks, where annual extraction of ground water is more than annual recharge and 20 dark blocks, where annual extraction is 85% to 100% of the annual recharge.

(b) CGWB has drilled 198 exploratory tubewells in Rajasthan during January, 2001 to December, 2002 out of which, 154 tubewells were successful and all the successful wells have been handed over free of cost to the State Government of Rajasthan. Moreover, the CGWB has approved 18 projects of rain water harvesting and ground water recharge in the State at a cost of Rs. 122.24 lakh.

### **Near Mid-Air Collision**

5256. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a near mid-air collision near Nagpur Airport dated on February 23, 2003;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this incident;

(c) if so, the outcome and the details thereof; and

(d) the action initiated against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

### **Investment Proposals of Foreign Companies In Warehousing**

5257. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has urged the foreign companies to invest in warehousing and allied activities in the State either directly or as jointly ventures;

(b) if so, whether a number of such proposals from the foreign countries are at present pending with the Union Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) As per the database of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), two proposals have been approved under FIPB/Automatic Route for undertaking Warehousing Activity in Karnataka and no proposals are pending with the Government of India. Warehousing and allied activities do not require environmental clearance as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994.

### **Crops under Purview of Commission on ACP**

5258. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has suggested to bring four more crops viz. Chillies, Onions, Turmeric and Potatoes under the purview of the Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices (ACP); and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Increase in Air Fare**

5259. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines/Air India had increased their air fare during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Air India increased air fares to various destinations during the last three years as per details in the statement enclosed.

In May 2001, following the introduction of flexi fare policy by Indian Airlines, fares were increased by 2% to 15%. In February, 2002, air fares were increased by 10% to 15%. In November, 2002, a 10% increase in fares was effected. On 26th March, 2003, fares were increased by 10% to 25% in various sector.

#### **Statement**

##### *Fare increase of Air India from April, 2000 to April, 2003*

From India to	Effective date	% of increase	Fare type
1	2	3	4
Mid Atlantic	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
South Atlantic	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
North Atlantic Except USA/Canada	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
North Central Pacific Except USA/Canada	4.1.2000	21.55%	F&J Class
		15.76%	Y&SPL Fare
USA via Pacific	4.1.2000	10.25%	All IATA Fares
Africa	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
Europe	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
M.E. Except Israel/Iran/Saudi Arabia	4.1.2000	10.25%	All IATA Fares
Israel	4.1.2000	15.76%	All IATA Fares
Iran	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
Saudi Arabia	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
			Except FRCL
		10.25%	First Class
Korea	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
S.E. Asia Except Guam/Hongkong	4.1.2000	8.15%	All IATA Fares
Indonesia/Philippines/Taiwan/Thailand			
Thailand	4.1.2000	8.50%	All IATA Fares
Guam	4.1.2000	3%	All IATA Fares

1	2	3	4
S.W. Pacific	4.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares EXCEPT FJCL
		8.50%	F&J Class
Hongkong	5.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
Canada via Atlantic	5.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
Canada via Pacific	5.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
Indonesia	5.1.2000	8.50%	All IATA Fares
Philippines	8.1.2000	5%	All IATA Fares
North Atlantic Except Canada	10.1.2000	5%	F&J Class
		3%	Excursion Fares
Mid Atlantic	10.1.2000	5%	F&J Class
		3%	Excursion Fares
South Atlantic	10.1.2000	5%	F&J Class
		3%	Excursion Fares
North America via Pacific Except Canada	10.1.2000	5%	F&J Class
		7%	J class
		3%	Excursion Fares
Central/S. America via Pacific	10.1.2000	5%	F&J Class
		3%	Economy Class
All Fares Except to Europe/Japan/Canada/ N. Atlantic/ M. Atlantic/ S. Atlantic	1.1.2001	10%	All IATA Fares
Europe	1.1.2001	13.30%	All IATA Normal Fares
		12.20%	Excursion Fares
N. Atlantic Except Canada	1.1.2001	15.50%	All normal Fares
		10%	All excursion fares
S. Atlantic & Mid Atlantic	1.1.2001	15.50%	All normal Fares
		10%	All excursion fares
North & Central Pacific	1.1.2001	10%	All IATA Fares
South Pacific	1.1.2001	10%	All IATA Fares
Canada via Atlantic	1.16.2001	10%	All IATA Fares
Canada via Pacific	1.21.2001	10%	All IATA Fares

1	2	3	4
Japan	3.1.2001	10%	All IATA Fares
USA/Canada	4.1.2003	5%	All IATA Fares
Europe	4.1.2003	5%	All IATA Fares
Middle East	4.1.2003	2%	All IATA Fares
Africa	4.1.2003	3%	All IATA Fares
South East Asia	4.1.2003	2%	All IATA Fares
Japan/Korea	4.1.2003	2%	All IATA Fares
Australia	4.1.2003	2%	All IATA Fares

### Minimum Support Price for Oil Palm

5260. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of total oilpalm plantation in the country; Andhra Pradesh accounts for 59%;

(b) if so, whether the farmers are not getting remunerative price for oilpalm;

(c) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requesting to Union Government to announce Minimum Support Price for oilpalm to safeguard the interests of the farmers keeping in view the price fluctuation of crude palm oil; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. From an area of 54,116 hectares covered under oil palm plantation (OPP) in the country, an area of 31,739 hectares has been covered in the State of Andhra Pradesh constituting around 59% of total area under OPP.

(b) Since the import tariff on edible oil has increased substantially for past one year and the oil prices are comfortable, the oil palm farmers are getting remunerative price for their produce.

(c) and (d) The Union Government received a letter from Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for oil palm. Since oil palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs) are highly perishable and its Fair Average Quality (FAQ) cannot be determined, it has

not been covered under MSP. However, to protect the interest of oil palm farmers from distress, sale, the Government has implemented Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for oil palm in Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

### New Airports in Maharashtra

5261. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new airports in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of airports in operations in the State at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has no plan at present to construct new Airports in the State of Maharashtra. However, State Government of Maharashtra has proposal to construct a second airport at Navi Mumbai. The City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) of Maharashtra prepared the techno-economic feasibility report for a second international airport at Navi Mumbai and they have been asked to identify the required land for two parallel runways since the runways must be capable of handling simultaneous operations.

(c) There are five airports, including one Civil Enclave at Pune, in operation under Airports Authority of India at present, in the State of Maharashtra.

[English]

#### Setting up of National Cattle Development Board

5262. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of National Cattle Development Board (NCDB) on the pattern of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and with an organisation chart by Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation (BCRDF); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

#### India's Contribution in Genome Mapping of Rice

5263. SHRI S. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is contributing in the phase-II of the international project to map the entire genome sequence of a rice variety;

(b) if so, the total India's contribution therein;

(c) the total amount allocation by the Planning Commission for this project; and

(d) the time by when the phase-III of the project is likely to begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. India is participating in the International Rice Genome Sequencing Project (IRGSP) through the Indian Initiative for Rice Genome Sequencing (IIRGS). The project started as a five year duration project is June 2000 at the National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and University of Delhi, South Campus, New Delhi. India contributed in sequencing from the rice chromosome 11.

(b) India has contributed high quality phase-II level sequence of fifteen million base pairs of deoxyribose nucleic acid (DNA) sequence against the assigned target of ten million base pairs from the rice chromosome 11.

This amounts to just over 3% of the total rice genome, which is estimated to be about 400 million base pairs.

(c) The total amount of funds allocated by the Planning Commission for this joint Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Department of Biotechnology (DBT) project is Rs. 4883 Lakhs for a period of five years between 2000-2005.

(d) The phase-III (final finished sequence) is continuing.

#### Charges for Passenger Amenities

5264. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority collects user fees for passenger amenities at Mumbai Airport;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of the number of passengers travelling from Mumbai Airport and total amount collected as user fees alongwith the amount saved;

(c) whether separate account is maintained for this;

(d) the details of amenities provided to the passengers by Mumbai Airport out of this amount;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the official counter, medical facilities, food stalls at Mumbai Airport are not at part with Delhi Airport; and

(g) the details of the measures being taken to upgrade these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No user fees for passenger amenities is collected at Mumbai Airport. However, Airports Authority of India (AAI) is collecting Passenger Service Fee (PSF) from embarking passengers all over India, which consists of two components *i.e.* security and facilitation. An amount of Rs. 40.68 crore in 1999-2000 from 56.20 lakh passengers, Rs. 43.42 crore in 2000-01 from 59.28 lakh passengers and Rs. 44.64 crore in 2001-02 from 59.04 lakh passengers were collected towards the facilitation component of PSF.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Facilities available at Terminal-1A and 1B at Mumbai airport are free baggage trolleys, restaurant & snack bar, automatic vending machines for tea, coffee, bournvita, soft drinks, chocolate and ice cream, juice shop, STD/ISD, postal services and telcom centre, car rentals, money exchange ATM centre, inter terminal coach services, hotel reservation facility, executive & ceremonial lounge, magazine vending, florist, handicraft & jewellery, chemist & cosmetic and book shops, air insurance, tourism information counters, child care room, left luggage, lost & found property facility, entertainment TV and conference hall.

(f) All the passenger amenities are at par with Delhi Airport.

(g) First-aid Medical facilities are available on round the clock basis in Terminal-1B and 2A. There are plans to provide medical facility in the night hours at Terminal-2C upon the sanction of paramedical staff there.

#### **Mushroom Production included in FPI**

5265. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mushroom production has been included in the Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the names of such industries with quantity of production and types of mushroom produced during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of facilities provided to mushroom industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Processing of mushroom is included in the Food Processing Industries.

(b) Food Processing Industries are both in organized and unorganized sector. As such, the quantity of production of processed mushroom is not centrally maintained. However, as per information furnished by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, mainly two types of mushroom viz. white button mushroom and oyster mushroom are produced with an overall production of 40,000 metric tones per year.

(c) Under its plan scheme, Ministry of Food Processing Industries provides financial assistance for setting up/expansion/modernization of food processing industries including mushroom to the extent of 25% of

capital cost subject to maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% of capital cost subject to maximum of 75 lakhs in difficult areas.

#### **Amount Spent on Tourist Facilities**

5266. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on the improvement and creation of tourist facilities in the country during Ninth Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the cost which the State Governments shared out of that?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has sanctioned 1563 projects with Central financial component of Rs. 372.43 crores in various States/Union Territories during the Ninth Five Year Plan. A statement giving state-wise number of projects and amounts sanctioned by Department of Tourism is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the Ninth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53	1170.35
2.	Assam	62	1840.03
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	1084.6
4.	Bihar	44	912.68
5.	Chhattisgarh	7	155.28
6.	Goa	52	936.45
7.	Gujarat	64	1653.75
8.	Haryana	39	933.85
9.	Himachal Pradesh	63	1680.22
10.	J & K	47	1338.06
11.	Jharkhand	8	286.49
12.	Karnataka	88	2163.02

1	2	3	4
13.	Kerala	66	3124.66
14.	Madhya Pradesh	68	1580.41
15.	Maharashtra	80	3098.52
16.	Manipur	40	1338.36
17.	Meghalaya	26	492.36
18.	Mizoram	47	1027.46
19.	Nagaland	42	824.01
20.	Orissa	62	1236.07
21.	Punjab	30	690.16
22.	Rajasthan	72	1164.79
23.	Sikkim	76	825.61
24.	Tamil Nadu	75	1579.39
25.	Tripura	41	1084.28
26.	Uttaranchal	10	135.7
27.	Uttar Pradesh	104	2231.91
28.	West Bengal	64	1193.74
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	7	256.65
30.	Chandigarh	14	150.86
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	66.9
32.	Delhi	31	550.95
33.	Daman & Diu	5	65.17
34.	Lakshadweep	3	51
35.	Pondicherry	22	319.33
Total		1563	37243.07

#### Suicides by Farmers

5267. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of suicides committed by farmers which have come to the notice of Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for the suicides committed by the farmers;

(c) the details of compensation given to the farmers, State-wise; and

(d) the details of action being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

#### Smaller Aircraft for Himachal Pradesh

5268. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ATR-42-320 aircraft have been acquired by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting their flights in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) by when the operations are likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Alliance Air has inducted four ATR 42-320 aircraft on dry lease basis for a period of 5 years. The leased aircraft are to be operated exclusively in the North Eastern Region, on the basis of an agreed budgetary grant of Rs. 35 crores per annum *i.e.* 175 crores during the five year period, to be contributed by Department of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) and North Eastern Council.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Slaughter Houses

5269. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise export of meat other than beef during the year 2000-2001 and thereafter, year-wise;

(b) the foreign exchange earned, unit-wise;

(c) whether these units have their own slaughter houses or export meat after buying it from other slaughter houses;

(d) if so, the names of the places where these slaughter houses are located; and

(e) the details of the animals categorised under other than cattle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) As per information furnished by Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), meat other than beef was exported during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 to various countries including Angola, Bahrain, Brazil, China, Congo, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA & Yamen Arab Republic. Information for the year 2002-03 is not available.

(b) This information is not being maintained.

(c) and (d) As per information made available by APEDA, while a few units have their own slaughter houses, others are sourcing meat for export from other slaughter houses including municipal slaughter houses. Municipal slaughter houses are located all over the country. There are a few slaughter houses in private sector which are located at Aurangabad, Koregaon and Nanded in Maharashtra; Goa, Aligarh, Unnao, Barabanki, Greater Noida in U.P.; Zeheerabad, Medak in Andhra Pradesh; Maurigram in WB and Derabassi in Punjab.

(e) The animals categorised under other than cattle are; Ovine (sheep and goat), swine, poultry which includes ducks, geese etc.

#### **Drought affected Districts of Maharashtra**

5270. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many districts in Maharashtra have been severely affected by drought during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the farmers of drought affected areas are being encouraged to adopt lift irrigation for the purpose of irrigation;

(c) if so, whether the Government have formulated any action plan to fund lift irrigation points in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. In addition to this, the Government of Maharashtra have also taken up the construction of lift irrigation schemes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As informed by Government of Maharashtra, lift irrigation schemes are being implemented by various Irrigation Development Corporations and the funds for this purpose are raised through market borrowings.

#### **Mining by UK based EIA**

5271. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a U.K. based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) has done mining in Jamwa Ramgarh near the Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan which has destroyed the tiger habitat;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the area from mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) No Sir. Question does not arise.

(d) At present the Central Government has not granted any permission for mining in the Jamwa Ramgarh wildlife sanctuary of Rajasthan. Further, the States have been asked to send proposals for declaring the surrounds of Protected Areas as 'eco-sensitive'.

#### **Performance of Khadi Gramodyog**

5272. SHRI AMBAREESHA:  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have reviewed the performance of the Khadi Gramodyog during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any shortcomings have been noticed during these reviews;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and



(e) the steps being taken by the Union Government to remove these shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to review the performance of the Khadi Gramodyog and recommend measures for the overall development of Khadi and Village Industries (KVI) programme in the country. The details of major recommendations of the Committee are at statement.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The shortcomings, observed during the review by the Committee, mainly related to lack of long term rebate policy, access to working capital, inadequate marketing linkages and infrastructure. Based on the recommendations of the Committee mentioned above, the Union Government announced the 'Khadi Package' in May, 2001. The Package *inter alia* provides for long term rebate policy, conversion of loan into working capital, renovation and modernization of sales outlets, brand building, design and packaging facilities, cluster development etc.

#### **Statement**

##### *Major Recommendations of the Committee*

##### *(i) Regarding Rebate and MDA to Khadi and Poly Vastra Institutions:*

It has recommended that instead of declaring Rebate on an annual basis the policy should be declared for five years and MDA at the rate of 20% of retail sales turn over as on 31.3.2000 and 20% on incremental sales be introduced as an option to khadi institutions and the cost chart be withdrawn.

##### *(ii) Working Capital to Khadi Institutions:*

Recommended additional line of credit of Rs. 250 crores in the form of Consortium of Bank Credit to be extended to Khadi Institutions through the National Small Scale Industries Corporation (NSSIC) for giving working capital to Khadi Institutions who opt for MDA.

##### *(iii) Insurance to Khadi Workers:*

The Committee recommended that all Khadi workers be insured against death, disease or disability with the help of LIC/GIC.

##### *(iv) Village Industries Sector:*

Recommended creation of two separate clearly identifiable wings, one for Khadi and other for V.I. under overall structure of KVIC.

##### *(v) Quality Control:*

Suggested strict measures to ensure Khadi and Village Industries products to meet quality standards mandatorily.

##### *(vi) Marketing Development, Advertisement, brand promotion:*

It recommended creation of certain common brand images for KVI products and KVIC to play the role of a facilitator in promoting common brands through decentralized publicity awareness measures.

The Committee recommended evolving of an institutional mechanism to renovate and modernate Departmental Bhavans as well as Marketing Outlets of Institutions.

##### *(vii) Design and Packaging Facilities:*

Recommended establishing linkages with Institutions like National Institute of Fashion Technology, National Institute of Design etc.

##### *(ix) Upgradation of Data Bank:*

Suggested creation of a Data bank in respect of capacities, products, sales etc.

##### *(x) Rural Infrastructure and Cluster Development:*

Suggested the need for proper backward and forward linkage and also dovetailing schemes of other Ministries, Departments etc.

##### *(xi) Strengthening of Rural Employment Generation Programme:*

Recommended continuing KVIC's REGP.

##### *(xii) Package for N.E. Region, Jammu Kashmir and Hill Area:*

Recommended aggressive promotion of cluster development programme in these States.

[English]

**Release of Assistance for Implementation of Livestock Development Agency in Karnataka**

5273. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal for release of financial assistance for the implementation of 80 livestock development agency in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been cleared;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has sent on 24.2.2003 a project proposal on National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding seeking central financial assistance for its implementation in the State through Karnataka Livestock Development Agency.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Utilisation Certificate in respect of an unspent balance of Rs. 183.02 lakh under subsumed schemes Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and National Bull Production Programme has not been received from the State Government.

(e) It will be considered after the submission of the utilisation certificate and physical progress report by the State Government.

[Translation]

**Setting up of Archaeological Museums**

5274. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to set up a archaeological museum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the project?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Archaeological Survey of India has decided to set up eight museums. Out of these, Jageshwar Museum (Uttaranchal) and Sheikh Chilli's Tomb Museum, Thaneswar (Haryana) have been thrown open to the public, while the other six museums *i.e.* (i) Vikramshila (Bihar); (ii) Kangra Fort (Himachal Pradesh); (iii) Zanana Enclosure (Karnataka); (iv) Guard Room (Karnataka); (v) Fatehpur Sikri (Uttar Pradesh); and (vi) Residency, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) are in the process of being set up.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 40.00 lakh and Rs. 40.40 lakh has been incurred during the financial year 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively for all these museums. Rs. 37.00 lakh has been allocated during the current financial year 2003-04.

[English]

**Revalidation of Unspent Amount**

5275. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many State Governments have requested the Union Government for revalidation of the unspent amount sanctioned to them under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing";

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On the request of some State Governments revalidation of unspent amount lying with the States was made during the financial year 2002-03 to facilitate utilization of the funds for implementing this scheme. State-wise details are as under:—

	State	Rs. in lakhs
(i)	Jammu & Kashmir	139.79
(ii)	Karnataka	134.81
(iii)	Uttar Pradesh	41.93

*[Translation]***Pending Cases of P.F.**

5276. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases for payment of Provident Fund are lying pending;

(b) if so, the number of such cases as-on date alongwith the reasons therefor, state-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for payment of P.F. to the employee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):  
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 3,90,728 cases for payment of Provident Fund are lying pending on account of the following reasons:

- Illegible Saving Bank A/c number of the member, Bank's name and address etc.
- Non-submission of claim-forms appropriately attested/countersigned by the employers or authorized person.
- Non-affixing of revenue stamp and signature thereon towards Advance Stamped Receipt as is required in the Claim Form.

State-wise details of pending cases are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for prompt payment of Provident Fund to the employees are as under:

- The officials of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation have been sensitised with proper instructions.
- The front-office functioning has been strengthened.
- The employers and the Provident Fund members are educated through seminars and through other forums about the specific requirements in the Schemes.
- The Employees Provident Fund Organisation is on the threshold of implementing the Re-inventing EPF India project for providing world-class service to the Provident Fund members.

**Statement****Settlement of Claims 2002-2003**

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Pending
1.	Andhra Pradesh	295
2.	Bihar	35
3.	Chhattisgarh	4048
4.	Delhi	31317
5.	Goa	166
6.	Gujarat	23992
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0
8.	Haryana	7483
9.	Jharkhand	1197
10.	Karnataka	21690
11.	Kerala	2222
12.	Maharashtra	184311
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14380
14.	North East Region	217
15.	Orissa	133
16.	Punjab	7958
17.	Rajasthan	5336
18.	Tamil Nadu	26545
19.	Uttaranchal	306
20.	Uttar Pradesh	39073
21.	West Bengal	29024
<b>Total</b>		<b>390728</b>

*[English]***National Dairy Development Board**

5277. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sole distribution of Dhara products of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) was given to the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) by the former Chairman of NDDB-AMUL at high commissions without calling for any tenders;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) was appointed by NDDB as sole selling agent of Dhara and commission paid to GCMMF is upto 1.75 per cent of MRP. Keeping in view the quantum of work carried out by GCMMF in fulfillment of duties as sole selling agent, the commission paid is considered reasonable.

#### **Production of Compost**

5278. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Union Government for production of compost from city garbage, organic wastes and bio-fertilizers;  
 (b) whether NGOs participation in production and distribution of compost has been sought;  
 (c) if so, the details thereof;  
 (d) whether any grant-in-aid scheme has been set up for the production of compost from garbage; and  
 (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Union Government has taken following steps for production of compost and biofertilizers:—

- (i) Under the Scheme 'Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers', funds have been provided for setting up of 30 compost plants at a cost of Rs. 7.89 crores during 8th & 9th Plan for production of compost from city garbage & bio-degradable organic waste for use as manure.  
 (ii) Under National Project on Development & Use of biofertilizer, funds have been provided for setting up of 77 biofertilizer production units at a total cost of Rs. 10.44 crores. Besides, ICAR has also provided financial assistance to five projects at a total cost of Rs. 80.56 lakhs under their revolving funds scheme for encouraging production of biofertilizers.  
 (iii) Besides, Ministry of Environment & Forests has also funded 3 projects at a cost of Rs. 1.35 crores for preparation of compost from municipal solid waste.

(b) and (c) Under the Balanced & Integrated use of Fertilizers Scheme compost plants are to be set up by Municipal Corporations, however, they have complete flexibility to involve any NGOs or private entrepreneurs for running the plants on day-to-day basis.

(d) and (e) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers, under which grants are given @ Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up of mechanized compost plants in urban areas is being continued during Xth plan as a part of new scheme namely "Macro-management of Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of States efforts through work plans". The States can thus continue to set up compost plants under this new scheme.

#### **Excavation Contract in Ayodhya**

5279. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
 SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:  
 SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria adopted by the Government in awarding the excavation contract in Ayodhya; and  
 (b) the conditions laid down in the contractual agreement for the work?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Government has not awarded any contract for excavation in Ayodhya.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Death of Labourers after getting Trapped in Conveyor Belt in CCL**

5280. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers who died due to conveyor belt accidents in Central Coalfields Limited (CLL) during last three years and thereafter;

(b) whether several labourers died in October, 2002 in the Bhurkunda project of CHP under CCL Barka Sayal area after getting trapped in Conveyor Belt;

(c) if so, whether production work came to stand still because of the demand for compensation to the deceased labourers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not giving the compensation to dependents of deceased labourers of CCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):  
(a) No death due to conveyor belt accidents in CCL during last three years was reported to the Directorate General of Mines Safety.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Sponge Iron Plants**

5281. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sponge iron plants set up in Orissa and Jharkhand both in the public and private sectors;

(b) the employment opportunities generated by these plants separately;

(c) whether any provision has been made to provide certain percentage of the jobs therein to the local people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) As per available information, the number of sponge iron plants set up in Orissa and Jharkhand are 20 and 7 respectively. There is no sponge iron plants in these States in Central Public Sector. Hence, details like employment, provision for certain percentage of the jobs to local people are not maintained by the Government.

[*Translation*]

#### **Conditions for Youths going Abroad**

5282. YOGI ADITYA NATH:  
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the youths gone abroad after completing technical training in India during the last three years;

(b) the number of youths came back to India during the said period;

(c) whether the Government propose to lay down some conditions in respect of the youths desirous of going abroad after completing technical training in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Such data is not maintained because as a part of liberalisation policy and with the objective of facilitating gainful employment abroad to maximum number of people, persons holding diplomas/degrees and certificates of vocational training from Government/ Government recognised institutions are not required to seek emigration clearance.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Amount for Drought Prone Areas**

5283. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount allocated for agricultural development for drought prone areas in the country particularly Gujarat during the last the three years; and

(b) the amount demanded by each State and released by the Union Government during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Infrastructural Facilities in Famine Prone Areas of Rajasthan**

5284. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up High Powered Development Board to facilitate fast development and create infrastructural facilities in famine prone Thar Desert areas of Rajasthan particularly Barmer and Jaisalmer; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture.

#### Development of Tourist Resorts in Tribal Areas

5285. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRIFED has formulated any plan to develop tourist resorts in tribal areas;

(b) if so, whether any places have been selected for the purpose;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to utilise TRIFED to explore new concepts for tribal development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) At present there is no such proposal under consideration in the Department of Tourism.

#### Production of Vanilla

5286. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any schemes for encouraging Vanilla cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has domestic and foreign market for Vanilla; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the price in both these sectors during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) For encouraging vanilla cultivation a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementing/Complementing the State Efforts through Work Plans is being implemented. Under this scheme the programmes included to promote vanilla cultivation are: (i) Production and distribution of quality planting material at 25% subsidy; and (ii) Establishment and maintenance of demonstration plots in the farmers's field in potential vanilla growing States by providing assistance @ 25% of cost of inputs limited to Rs. 500/- per plot. Besides, the Spices Board under Ministry of Commerce is implementing following programmes to promote vanilla cultivation:

Programme	Incentive/assistance provided
New planting	50% of the cost of planting material subject to a maximum of Rs. 5/- per cutting.
Setting up vanilla Processing units	25% of the cost of vanilla curing unit subject to a maximum of Rs. 2500/-

(c) and (d) There is no organized domestic market for vanilla in India, however, small quantities of vanilla are exported. The details of quantity and value of export of vanilla for the last three years are as under:—

Year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
2000-2001	22.21	505.00
2001-2002	26.50	1679.00
2002-2003 (April-February)	12.00	950.00

The average prices per kg. of processed vanilla in the international market during the years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 is given below:

Year	Average prices of processed vanilla (US\$ per Kg.)
2000-2001	82.00
2001-2002	153.00
2002-2003	202.00

**Internal/External Assistance to CSE**

5287. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) New Delhi is a trust, society or corporate entity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CSE has complied with all norms required under applicable statutes and regulations and if not, the details of all non-compliances along with the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of various foreign/Indian entities providing funds to CSE and the amount contributed for each of the years from 1999-2000 to 2002-2003 and the specific details of which those funds have been applied; and

(e) the specifications of each testing equipment owned or used by CSE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi is a Registered Society under the Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860.

(b) The society was registered in 1980 by a group of engineers, scientists, journalists and environmentalists to create awareness particularly through the mass media, on issues related to science, technology, environment and development. The Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi is also recognized as an institution of national importance under Section 10(23)C of the Income Tax Act and registered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

(c) This Ministry has not received any complaint of non-compliance by the CSE on norms required under applicable statutes and regulations.

(d) Details of major foreign and Indian donors providing funds to CSE along with amounts and purpose for which funds were provided for the years 1999-2000 to 20002-2003 are given at Statement-I enclosed.

(e) The testing equipment owned and used by CSE are at Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement-I****Details of Grants Received**

Sl. No.	Name of Donor	Total	Total	Total	Total	Purpose
		Amount 2002-2003 Rs.	Amount 2001-2002 Rs.	Amount 2000-2001 Rs.	Amount 1999-2000 Rs.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Indian/UN donors</b>						
1.	Dorabji Tata	4,900,000.00	4,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	—	For programmes of environmental documentation
2.	Ministry of Environment/UNDP	2,906,343.00	6,375,000.00	5,650,182.80	4,522,793.00	For Green Rating Project
3.	Sir Ratan Tata Trust	Nil	25,78,320.00	5,000,000.00	Nil	Towards core programmes
4.	Department of Education	Nil	Nil	373,000.00	Nil	Towards environment education
5.	Ministry of Environment	280,000.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Towards journalists workshop
6.	ICICI	Nil	Nil	6,000.00	4,00,000	Towards short term environmental projects
7.	JFS	Nil	Nil	Nil	175,000.00	Towards short term environmental projects
8.	Others	Nil	Nil	Nil	217,887.00	Various short-term environmental projects

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Foreign donors</b>						
1.	Dan Church Aid, New Delhi Head Office: Denmark	2,859,461.00	1,134,973.00	1,953,433.00	1,927,740.00	To create awareness in society about environment-poverty linkages and to highlight successful efforts in poverty alleviation.
2.	CTZ, New Delhi Head Office: Germany	Nil	4,148,000.00	Nil	3,500,000.00	To establish alternate facility for pollution and pesticide residue monitoring, conduct analytical tests and disseminate the findings widely to create a consciousness in society of the harmful effects of pesticide-residues in food, water and air.
3.	EED, New Delhi Head Office: Germany	8,257,421.00	5,070,531.00	10,353,838.00	9,764,910.43	To support environmental programmes of awareness raising, policy research, advocacy, education and training.
4.	Ford Foundation, New Delhi Head Office: USA	4,858,973.00	6,867,353.00	2,032,103.00	2,553,143.84	To support programmes of research, awareness creation, advocacy, education & training to promote water harvesting.
5.	Heinrich Boll Foundation, Germany	1,423,080.00	1,543,314.00	664,168.00	24,122.00	For programmes of awareness-creation, research and advocacy in the area of global environmental governance.
6.	Mac Arthur Foundation, USA	Nil	3,968,650.00	4,114,800.00	4,965,667.00	For programmes of awareness-creation, research and advocacy on natural resource management and global governance.
6.	The Rockefeller Foundation USA	Nil	960,000.00	1,024,100.00	557,700.00	Publication and release meetings on global environmental negotiations and Study on practice of community-based water management on degraded land.
8.	SIDA, New Delhi Head Office: Sweden	18,037,517.00	19,173,323.00	10,449,695.99	12,744,000.00	For programmes of environmental policy research, education, training, advocacy and awareness creation.
9.	Danish Embassy, New Delhi Head Office: Denmark	3,930,000.00	3,000,000.00	Nil	3,000,000.00	For activities in the area of air pollution, poverty-environment linkages.
10.	UNICEF, New Delhi	1,342,820.00	2,714,147.00	1,156,669.00	Nil	For informational products, dissemination and training programmes on water harvesting.
11.	NORAD, New Delhi Head Office: Norway	—	4,870,615.91	Nil	Nil	For programmes of Green Rating of Indian Industries and Environmental education.
12.	European Delegation, New Delhi Head Office: Brussels	10,401,376.00	Nil	6,326,161.00	Nil	For activities in the area of environmental health and pollution-monitoring.
13.	GWP, Netherlands	3,615,000.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	For programmes of water management and to set up a South Asian network for water harvestors.
14.	MS, Denmark	4,172,880.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	For capacity-building programmes related to WSSD.
15.	Other donors for small projects	145,500.00	701,530.00	2,497,289.00	1,965,269.00	Various short-term environmental projects.



**Statement-II**

*Following are the testing equipments along with Specifications owned or used by CSF*

1. High Performance Liquid Chromatograph-HP 1100 series with diode array detector and fluorescent detector
2. Gas Chromatograph—Thermoquest with ECD, FID and TCD Trace 2000 mainframe with AS 2000 Autosampler and other accessories.
3. Gas Chromatograph—NUCON with ECD
4. CINTRA—5UV—visible Spectrophotometer 99-0402-00
5. Mettler AG 245 Electronic balance
6. Mettler Toledo balance-PB 1502-S
7. Elga water purification system for ultra pure water (Option and maxima)
8. Respirable Dust sampler NL and Dx model (No. 2)
9. Spectrquent TR-320 (COD digester)
10. Ion meter with Cl, F, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, PB and pH electrode
11. Mercury analyzer
12. pH Meter
13. Dissolved Oxygen Meter
14. TDS and Conductivity Meter
15. Turbidity Meter
16. Remi Centrifuge machine R&C
17. Rotatory Shaker
18. Rotatory Evaporator with vaccum pump.

**Violation of Forest Conservation Act by Kerala**

5288. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had given clearance to the Government of Kerala in 1999 to construct a weir at Mukkali in Palghat District of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in January 2003 the Union Government had stayed the construction of the weir;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government have conducted any enquiry regarding the alleged violation of the Forest Conservation Act by the Government of Kerala prior to the issuance of the stay order as far as the construction of the weir is concerned;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether as per the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 any construction work which has met all the conditions of the said Act cannot be stayed unilaterally; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Environment & Forests through its Regional Office, Bangalore has given approval for diversion of 1.25 ha. of forest land in Mukkali forest station to Panthanthode in Agali Panchayat, Mannarkad Taluk, Mannarkad Division, Palakkad District for constructing weir & leading channel from stream subject to certain conditions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) On a representation received from Bhavani River Water Protection All Party Committee of Coimbatore—Erode District regarding construction of a Check Dam along the river Bhavani and felling of trees, site inspection was carried out by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Regional Office, Bangalore on 28.01.2003. The enquiry revealed that the weir is not constructed as per the approval given under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Instead of constructing the weir across the stream near Bhavani River and leading channel from the stream to Panthanthode, for which use of forest land has been approved, an earthen-dam across the Bhavani River has been constructed and the work of construction of leading channel between Manthampotty stream to Bhavani River was in progress. The work has been undertaken for a completely different project for which approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was neither sought by the State Government, nor accorded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Thus, the work was being carried out in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act,

1980. Therefore, the Ministry, after due consideration, decided to keep in abeyance the clearance granted by the Regional Office, Bangalore till further orders and requested for stopping the work forthwith.

(g) and (h) As mentioned above, the construction work was carried out in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After issuance of abeyance order in January, 2003, the show cause notice was issued to the State Government on 07.02.2003. Reply from the State Government has been received. The matter is now *sub-judice* since a case in this regard has been filed and pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and also a petition is pending before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

#### **Pollution in West Uttar Pradesh**

5289. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has mapped and declared Gajraula, in Western Uttar Pradesh as "critically polluted" in terms of T.S.P.M. (Total Suspended Particle Matter);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are planning for a by-pass on NH-24 (Delhi-Lucknow) to safeguard the health of citizens; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to reduce levels of T.S.P.M. in Gajraula alongwith the action planned to safeguard the life of citizens there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Based on the ambient air quality data during 1999-2001, Gajraula in Uttar Pradesh has been identified as one of the towns for formulation of Action Plan for improving air quality. Action Plan covers preparation of inventory of polluting industries and evolving sectors specific mitigation plan.

(c) There is no proposal for construction of a by-pass on NH-24.

(d) Steps taken to reduce the level of air pollution including total Suspended Particulate Matter include:

- (i) Identification of air polluting industries.
- (ii) Setting up of requisite air pollution control facilities in polluting industries.
- (iii) Monitoring of ambient air quality in the area.

[Translation]

#### **Losses to Delhi Milk Scheme**

5290. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) is running in heavy losses presently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total loss suffered by the DMS as on March 31, 2003;

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to minimize the loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The losses in DMS are due to decrease in the sale of milk due to increase in the sale price of DMS milk w.e.f. 1.3.2000, non-utilization of installed capacity of DMS plant and increase in the processing cost of milk due to increase in input costs.

(c) The total loss suffered by DMS during the year 2002-2003 is Rs. 16.62 crores (provisional).

(d) The DMS is adopting professional approaches in different areas of operation such as marketing, transportation, reduction in operational losses and reduction of manpower etc.

[English]

#### **Development of Quality Seeds by I.A.R.C./N.S.C.**

5291. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Indian Agriculture Research Council (IARC) and National Seeds Corporation (NSC) for the development of quality seeds such as Soya, Sunflower and Groundnut;

(b) whether India has made any headway in the global-market of seeds;

(c) whether the demand of improved quality of seeds is likely to cross 100 lakh tonnes in the next two years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There is a specific programme, Oilseeds Production Programme, under which funds have been provided to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) by the Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses (TMOP) for the production of required quantity of breeder seed of soybean, sunflower and groundnut. Funds have also been provided by TMOP division to National Seeds Corporation (NSC) and State Governments for production of foundation seed and certified/quality seed and also for distribution of seed to farmers.

The quantity of breeder seed produced during the year 2002-2003 are 2556.70 quintals in groundnut, 8267.30 quintals in soybean, 9.15 quintals in sunflower varieties and 13.30 quintals in sunflower hybrids.

The requirement and availability of certified/quality seed in these crops is given below for the current year i.e. 2002-2003:

Crop	Quantity (in lakh quintals)	
	Requirement	Availability
Groundnut	6.64	7.30
Sunflower	0.66	1.07
Soyabean	5.50	6.64

(b) India has made headway in case of vegetable seeds. Seeds of capsicum, watermelon, carrot, squash, tomato, brinjal, okra, bottlegourd, radish and onion has been globally marketed by India. However, our share in the global market is still less than 1%.

(c) The level of 100 lakh quintals of improved quality seeds production was achieved in the year 1998-99 and since then the seed production had always been above 100 lakh quintals.

(d) The requirement of about 100 lakh quintals of seed has been met.

#### **Misbehaviour with Airlines Official**

5292. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of a recently reported incident of misbehaviour by a V.V.I.P. with some private airlines officials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There has been a news report about an incident involving a Union Minister with the staff of a private airline at Mumbai on 25.3.2003. The incident is being enquired into by the Joint Director General of Civil Aviation.

#### **Capacity Utilization of Airports**

5293. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing airport capacity in the country, region-wise;

(b) the airports in the country that are not being used to their full capacity;

(c) the details of plan formulated by the Government for the proper capacity utilisation of these airports;

(d) the details of the airports in the country which have reached a saturation point regarding capacity utilisation, State-wise;

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to upgrade these airports during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(f) the expenditure incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The region-wise existing terminal capacity at top 46 airports during 2001-02 in the domestic and international sectors is 50.26 and 8.20 lakh passengers in the Eastern Region. Similarly, capacity of 136.25 and 92.02 lakh passengers in Western Region, 107.70 and 35.50 lakh passengers in Northern Region, 122.77 and 51.20 lakh passengers in Southern Region in the respective sectors and 10 lakh passengers in domestic sector in North East Region have been assessed.

(b) The airports where the capacity is more than the demand and are not used to their full capacity are Kolkata, Patna, Port Blair, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, Ahmedabad, Goa (International Terminal), Jaipur, Agra, Delhi (Domestic Terminal), Jammu, Jodhpur, Khajuraho, Leh, Lucknow, Srinagar, Udaipur, Varanasi, Chennai (Domestic Terminal), Trivandrum (Domestic Terminal), Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin, Coimbatore, Calicut, Trichy, Visakhapatnam, Madurai, Mangalore, Agartala, Bagdogra, Imphal, Dibrugarh and Silchar.

(c) Utilization of the terminal capacity depends upon flight operations by the Airlines who utilize the airport facilities. Additional capacity is built-in to meet future requirements for the next 5 to 10 years on creation of new facilities which are put to maximum use.

(d) Based on 2001-02 traffic data on annual capacity and demand, the airports at Goa (Domestic Terminal), in Goa, Pune in Maharashtra, Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, Chennai (Anna International Terminal) in Tamil Nadu and Trivandrum (International Terminal) in the State of Kerala have reached the saturation point.

(e) Modernization, upgradation and expansion of the various infrastructure facilities is a continuous process and is undertaken keeping in view factors such as traffic availability, viability of the project, type of aircraft, land availability, etc.

(f) An amount of Rs. 1687.24 crore was spent by Airports Authority of India during IX Five Year Plan for the modernisation and expansion of the airport facilities all over the country.

#### **Minimum Wages Act**

5294. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Wages Act has not been implemented in several States;

(b) if so, the names of such States; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the Minimum Wages Act all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 has been adopted and implemented by all the State Governments/ Union Territories except Sikkim. The enforcement of the provisions of the Act is secured through the Central/State enforcement machineries. The officers of these machineries are appointed as inspectors under the Act. They conduct regular inspections and whenever they come across any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages, they advise the employers to make payment of shortfall of wages. There are legal and penal provisions in the Act against the defaulting employers.

#### **Maharashtra Elektros melt Limited**

5295. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Elektros melt Limited (MEL) a subsidiary of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) located at Chandrapur, Maharashtra is producing high quality Manganese based on Ferro Alloys in the country;

(b) if so, whether power is the main raw material for the MEL;

(c) if so, its total requirement of power and the quantity of power the MEL is getting from Maharashtra Electricity Board (MSEB) and the quantity the MEL is producing in its own plant and the rate at which the power is being supplied to MEL by MSEB;

(d) whether the management and workers of MEL have requested for permission to install a 24 MW captive power plant for the requirement of MEL;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Power is the main input for Maharashtra Elektros melt Limited (MEL).

(c) The total requirement of power in MEL is 280-300 million units per annum. Contract demand with Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) is 45 MVA (Average Load : Approx. 40 MW). Out of this MEL gets 270-280 million units per annum (40 MW) through MSEB and 1.6 MW approx. from own power generation. The average power tariff from MSEB has been/is Rs. 3.50/KWH upto 31.12.2002 including Transmission & Distribution (T&D) losses and Rs. 3.20/KWH from 1.1.1.2003 to 30.6.2003 after temporary withdrawal of charges towards T&D losses in Chandrapur area.

(d) to (f) MEL had made a request to Government of Maharashtra for issuance of 'No Objection Certificate (NOC)' for installation of power plant at MEL. However, the request for permission for installation of captive power plant has not been acceded to by the Government of Maharashtra.

#### **Processed Food**

5296. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set out for the production of various items of processed food during 2003-04 and the quantities proposed to be exported;

(b) the likely impact of new EXIM policy on the food processing industry in India; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect domestic food processing industries from enhanced imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No target is set out for the production of items of processed food. Target of export of processed food including marine product is Rs. 19,860 crores for the year 2003-04.

(b) The new EXIM policy is likely to have a positive effect on food processing industries in India.

(c) Steps taken to protect domestic industry from enhanced imports include reasonable import tariffs, anti-dumping measures.

#### **Problems of Cooperatives in Land Matters**

5297. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cooperatives in agricultural matters and land matters are facing liquidity as well as management problems;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to streamline the administrative discipline, management and functioning of the cooperatives in the country during the Tenth Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Some shortcomings in the working of cooperatives have been noticed. With a view to overcome these constraints, the Central Government has enacted a new Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 which aims at providing full functional autonomy and democratic management to the societies. State Governments have also been advised to carry out amendments in their respective State Cooperative Societies act on the similar lines. The Central Government has formulated a National Policy on Cooperative aimed at the all round development of the cooperatives and their economic viability with the focus on professionalisation of cooperatives and democratization of

their management to facilitate their development as self-reliant and economically viable organizations so as to safeguarding them against market imperfections and bestowing on them the advantages of collective action. The Government has also initiated steps to revitalize Cooperative Credit Structure in the country.

#### **Export of Hot Rolled Steel Coil to China by SAIL**

5298. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has approved massive investment proposals in respect of its various plants recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SAIL has decided to export Hot Rolled Steel Coil to China; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Recently, Steel Authority of India Limited has approved rebuilding of Coke Oven Battery No. 1 at Rourkela Steel Plant (Rs. 112.39 Crore) and a new Ladle Furnace Steel Melting Shop at Durgapur Steel Plant (Rs. 23.33 Crore).

(c) and (d) SAIL has been exporting Hot Rolled Steel Coils to China. SAIL's export of Hot Rolled Steel Coils to China is as under:

	Provisional/000t)	
Year	2001-02	2002-03
Quantity	2.1	156

#### **Minimum Support Price for Procurement of Rice and Paddy**

5299. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under their consideration to introduce/fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) for procurement of fine and super fine varieties of rice/paddy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any proposal has been received from States to treat fine and super fine varieties of paddy separately for the purpose of fixing MSP for procurement; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In August, 1997 the Government reclassified paddy into 2 instead of 3 varieties for the Minimum Support Price (MSP) purposes because of difficulties faces in the proper classification of different varieties of fine and super fine paddy. The decision was taken in the overall interests of the farmers all over the country.

(d) The State Government of Haryana has, however, been recommending fixation of separate MSP for fine and super fine varieties of paddy.

(e) The Government intends to continue with the existing policy of announcing MSP separately for Common and Grade 'A' variety of paddy.

#### **Airport at Kohima**

5300. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the survey conducted by the Planning Commission for construction of International airport/Airport at Kohima;

(b) whether the Government have drawn any concrete plans in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Planning Commission has not conducted any survey regarding construction of an airport at Kohima.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Environmental Clearance to Project along Coastal Region**

5301. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:  
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to examine all new developmental projects along the coastal region to conserve and manage ground water resources in the wake of reports of increased salinity due to over extraction;

(b) if so, the details and the facts thereof;

(c) whether the environmental clearance to projects along the coastal region would be accorded keeping in view a check on ground water extraction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) For the purpose of conserving and protecting the coastal environment, the Central Government issued Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 which regulates developmental activities within the CRZ area. The CRZ Notification prohibits harvesting or drawal of ground water and construction of mechanisms therefor within 200 metres of the high tide line (HTL). However, drawal of ground water through ordinary wells by manual methods for drinking, horticulture, agriculture and fisheries is permitted within 200-500 meters of the HTL in CRZ area.

(c) and (d) The Central Government while examining developmental project proposal under the CRZ Notification, 1991 and Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 stipulates stringent conditions to conserve ground water.

[Translation]

#### **VRS in Bhilai Steel Plant**

5302. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of labourers retired under Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) from Bhilai Steel Plant during the last three years; and

(b) the total number of new labourers appointed in the said plant during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The number of employees of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) who have opted for VRS during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. opted for VRS
2000-01	No VR Scheme was in operation
2001-02	1108
2002-03	1917

(b) The total number of workers appointed in BSP during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of workers appointed
2000-01	3
2001-02	326
2002-03	198

#### Withdrawal of Forest Land Notification

5303. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the Government of Himachal Pradesh on February 27, 2003 to withdraw the notification dated August 24, 1998 issued by the State Government in regard to the forest land;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay in asking the State Government to withdraw the notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Himachal Pradesh on 25.2.1952 declared all forests or wastelands including the categories like 'charagah bila drakhtan' and 'gair mumkin'

in Himachal Pradesh, which was property of the State Government or over which the State Government has proprietary rights as protected forests. Thereafter, the State Government vide notification dated 24.8.1998 clarified that those two categories of lands are not included in 'Waste Lands' for the purpose of 1952 notification. This was in contravention of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 since once certain lands have been declared as forest land or the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 are applicable on such lands, then after coming into force of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, no State Government or any other authority can exclude such lands from the category of forest land without the prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) There is no delay in asking the State Government to withdraw this notification. As soon as the above notification of the State Government came to the notice of the Ministry, the State Government was asked on 10.11.1998 itself to withdraw this notification.

[English]

#### Performance of Steel Plants

5304. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of each steel plant during the last three years;

(b) the steel plants which are running at losses;

(c) the reasons for the losses; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the performance of each steel plant during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The financial performance of public sector steel plants during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Plant	Net Profit (+)/Loss (-) during		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03*
1	2	3	4
Bhilai Steel Plant	+342	+477	+360
Durgapur Steel Plant	-236	-262	-200

1	2	3	4
Rourkela Steel Plant	-445	-1036	-523
Bokrao Steel Plant	+49	-459	+117
Alloy Steel Plant	-184	-149	-114
Salem Steel Plant	-155	-153	-91
Visvesvaraya Steel Plant	-68	-103	-77
Indian Iron & Steel Company	-187	-180	-121
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant	-291	-75	+337

\*Provisional upto Dec., 02

(b) Durgapur Steel Plant, Rourkela Steel Plant, Alloy Steel Plant, Salem Steel Plant, Visvesvaraya Steel Plant and Indian Iron & Steel Company have incurred losses during the year 2002-2003, according to provisional data available upto December, 2002.

(c) Main reasons for incurring losses by steel plants are as under:

- General slow down in the economy resulting in stagnation in steel consumption.
- Declining trend in international prices of steel mainly due to global recession.
- Protective measures adopted by foreign governments to safeguard the interest of their domestic steel industry.
- Increase in flat product capacity in the country due to entry of many new steel producers in this segment.
- Higher interest and depreciation cost on modernisation of capital schemes.
- Higher input cost, manpower cost and social costs.
- Locational disadvantage in terms of freight as well as other logistics as compared to competitors.

(d) Some of the steps taken to improve the profitability of steel plants are as under:

- Business restructuring including, *inter alia*, divestment of non-core assets.
- Intensive cost control.

- Control on capital expenditure.
- Market oriented product-mix, reinforcing sales and marketing efforts, greater focus on customer satisfaction etc.
- Rightsizing Manpower.
- Prudent Fund Management.
- Increase in production level.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of Airports in Rajasthan**

5305. SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme for the extension, development and modernisation of airports of Rajasthan in order to upgrade them to the international level;

(b) if so, the details of the amount allocated for the said purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether the development and extension works of the said airports have commenced; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up extension of runway and expansion & modification of terminal building at Jaipur airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 30.37 crore. At Udaipur airport, AAI has plan for construction of new terminal building, extension of apron and associated facilities at an estimated cost of Rs. 23 crore.



(c) and (d) Present Progress of extension of runway at Jaipur airport is 25%. Works of expansion of terminal building at Jaipur airport, and extension of apron and taxi track and construction of Terminal Building at Udaipur are at a planning stage.

#### Funds from NABARD for Development of Forests

5306. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has sanctioned funds for development of forests in the country including Jharkhand during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether a scheme has been formulated to incur funds on conservation of forests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds utilised by the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir. NABARD has disbursed refinance to banks in ten States for forestry development. No refinance has been disbursed in the Jharkhand.

(b) State-wise details of the refinance disbursed are enclosed as statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Central assistance was provided to the States under the Centrally sponsored forestry scheme 'Forest Fire Control and Management' during the Ninth plan for prevention and control of forest fires. Funds were also provided for strengthening of infrastructure for forest protection in the North Eastern States and Sikkim. Rs. 20.53 crore have been utilized by the States under the scheme 'Forest Fire Control and Management' and Rs. 38.30 crore for strengthening of infrastructure for forest protection during the ninth plan. During tenth Plan, the Ministry has formulated a new scheme viz. 'Integrated Forest Protection Scheme' by merging the above two components and the amount released during 2002-03 is Rs. 45.82 crores.

#### Statement

#### State-wise details of refinance to banks for forestry development by NABARD

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Haryana	990	642	351
Punjab	99	172	107
Orissa	23	50	154
West Bengal	1	35	—
Uttar Pradesh	82	147	152
Gujarat	2	—	—
Maharashtra	—	185	71
Andhra Pradesh*	84	319	374
Karnataka	—	7	0
Tamil Nadu	82	65	31
Total	1363	1622	1240

\*In the case of Andhra Pradesh, loans of Rs. 100.47 crore have also been sanctioned by NABARD for Joint Forest Management Scheme during the last three years under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund-V, VI and VIII.

#### Missing Luggage

5307. SHRI JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the complaints received by the Government during the last one year regarding the theft/ loss of luggage, booked with the Indian Airlines and Air India both on domestic and international flights;

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have neither paid compensation nor conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(d) the reasons therefor, complaint-wise;

(e) the number of cases of compensation still pending with the Government; and

(f) by when they are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to

(f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Package to Farmers in Rice Producing Enterprises**

5308. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalized any package deal to provide agricultural inputs to farmers in the rice producing enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified specific regions in rice belt of the country where the soil is fertile but the productivity is below the potential;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the productivity in these regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Integrated Cereals Development Programme of Rice Based Cropping System, (ICDP-Rice), incentives are being provided for distribution of certified seed, improved bullock drawn/manually operated identified farm implements and power tillers. The scheme has been subsumed into Macro Management Mode of Agriculture alongwith other 26 schemes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation with effect from October 2000. Under the Macro Management mode of Agriculture the states have been given the flexibility to choose any or all the above mentioned activities as well as undertake any other activities as per their requirements.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In general the productivity of rice in the eastern states is below the national average and the potential.

(e) In addition to the scheme of Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, a new scheme of On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern

India has been launched since March 2002. The scheme is specifically focused for increasing the production and productivity of rice through effective utilization of ground and surface water in eastern region.

[Translation]

**Foreign Exchange Earnings from Monuments**

5309. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KAHIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign exchange earned from various monuments under ASI during the last three years alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned from Taj Mahal alone alongwith the expenditure incurred; and

(c) the method of utilisation of the foreign exchange earned from monuments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Entry fee in US dollars for foreign visitors was introduced in the Centrally protected monuments from 28th October, 2000. The details of foreign exchange earned from ticketed monuments under Archaeological Survey of India from 28.10.2000 to March 2003 are at Statement-I enclosed. The following expenditure has been incurred on conservation and maintenance of monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India for the years:

2000-2001	—	Rs. 2917.65 lakhs
2001-2002	—	Rs. 4737.61 lakhs
2002-2003	—	Rs. 6649.78 lakhs.

(b) The details of foreign exchange earned from Taj Mahal alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years is at statement-II enclosed.

(c) Revenue earned from the ticketed monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India is deposited in the consolidated fund of Government of India. 75% of the revenue component is ploughed back to the Department of Culture for various activities including conservation, preservation and environmental development of monuments.

**Statement-I**

*Statement of foreign exchange collected by sale of Entry Ticket in (US \$) from Centrally protected monuments w.e.f. 28.10.2000*

(Amount in US \$)

Name of Circle	20.10.2000 to 31.12.2000	Jan. to Dec. 2001	Jan. to Dec. 2002	Jan. to March 03
Agra	189685	880942	373447	284092
Aurangabad	58829	176885	66612	55788
Bhubaneshwar	12386	12580	2809	2106
Bangalore	Nil	13288	8891	6277
Bhopal	49285	140146	49034	62608
Chennai	5885	30430	15046	8940
Chandigarh	Nil	181	28	—
Delhi	82205	342416	118768	72676
Dharwad	4520	17487	5584	4657
Guwahati	Nil	10	4	2
Hyderabad	730	3926	748	596
Jaipur	2030	8437	1662	652
Kolkata	Nil	58	4	12
Lucknow	7720	26511	13122	7700
Patna	26844	60732	45948	33021
Srinagar	Nil	2230	113	—
Thrissur	Nil	50	14	—
Vadodara	46	Nil	30	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>440165</b>	<b>1716309</b>	<b>701864</b>	<b>539211</b>

1. Entry fee levied in 14 World Heritage Monuments is @ 10 US\$ and 5 US\$ in other months w.e.f. 28.10.2000
2. From 1st Oct. 2001 the entry fee on 14 World Heritage Monuments has been reduced to @ 5 US\$ corresponding to Rs. 250 per head and 2 US\$ corresponding to Rs. 100 on other 110 monuments

**Statement-II**

*Details of the foreign exchange earned and expenditure incurred thereon from Taj Mahal during the last three years*

Year	Revenue Collected in foreign exchange (in US dollar)	Expenditure Incurred	
		Year	Total
Oct. 2000 to Dec. 2000	91,650	2000-01	Rs. 21,48,430
2001	4,93,810	2001-02	Rs. 22,02,130
2002	1,77,860	2002-03	Rs. 10,17,093
2003 (upto March)	1,43,555		

**Land under Irrigation**

5310. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 70 per cent of the total agricultural land is still unirrigated and it depends on rains and the unpredictability of nature;

(b) if so, the percentage of unirrigated land in each state and union territory and the details of unutilised irrigation capacity at the end of the last three five year plans;

(c) the unutilised irrigation capacity due to inter-state river water disputes;

(d) whether a new irrigation policy is proposed to be formulated; and

(e) if so, the steps taken so far in this direction and the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per Land Use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1998-99 (latest), the Net Sown Area (Cultivated Area) of the country was 142.60 million hectare of which net Irrigated Area was 57.05 million hectare, thereby leaving 60% of the Net Sown Area as unirrigated or, dependent on rainwater for irrigation.

(b) The percentage of unirrigated land in each State and Union Territory is given in the statement enclosed. The position of the unutilized capacity at the end of last three Five Year Plans is as under:

(In Million hectare)

Plan	Capacity created	Capacity utilised	Unutilised capacity
At the end of VII Plan	76.52	68.59	7.93
At the end of VIII Plan	86.25	77.21	9.04
At the end of IX Plan	95.40	85.41	9.99

(c) As per assessment made by Central Water Commission, an irrigation potential of about 696.5 thousand hectare remains locked up in the country due to inter-state river water disputes.

(d) and (e) A draft Irrigation Management Policy has been finalised by the National Water Board and is to be placed before the National Water Resources Council headed by the Prime Minister for consideration.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of Net Irrigated Area (NIA), Net Sown Area (NSA) and percentage of Unirrigated Area*

(In thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Net Sown Area (NSA)	Net Irrigated Area (NIA)	% of NIA to NSA	% of Unirrigated area
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10987.00	4538.00	41.34	58.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	185.00	36.00	19.46	80.54
3.	Assam	2701.00	572.00	21.18	78.82
4.	Bihar	7431.00	3682.00	49.55	50.45
5.	Goa	142.00	22.00	15.49	84.51

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Gujarat	9674.00	3058.00	31.61	68.39
7.	Haryana	3628.00	2842.00	78.34	21.66
8.	Himachal Pradesh	549.00	103.00	18.76	81.24
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	733.00	309.00	42.16	57.84
10.	Karnataka	10489.00	2492.00	23.76	76.24
11.	Kerala	2259.00	375.00	16.60	83.4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19839.00	6560.00	33.07	66.93
13.	Maharashtra	17732.00	2946.00	16.61	83.39
14.	Manipur	140.00	65.00	46.43	53.57
15.	Meghalaya	221.0	48.00	21.72	78.28
16.	Mizoram	109.00	9.00	8.26	91.74
17.	Nagaland	261.00	63.00	24.14	75.86
18.	Orissa	6048.00	2090.00	34.56	65.44
19.	Punjab	4238.00	4004.00	94.48	5.52
20.	Rajasthan	16073.00	5499.00	34.21	65.79
21.	Sikkim	95.00	16.00	16.84	83.16
22.	Tamil Nadu	5635.00	3019.00	53.58	46.42
23.	Tripura	277.00	35.00	12.64	87.36
24.	Uttar Pradesh	17585.00	12691.00	72.17	27.83
25.	West Bengal	5440.00	1911.00	35.13	64.87
	Total of all States	142462.00	56985.00	40.00	60.00
26.	A & N Island	38.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
27.	Chandigarh	2.00	2.00	100.00	0.00
28.	D & N Haveli	23.00	5.00	21.74	78.26
29.	Daman & Diu	4.00	1.00	25.00	75.00
30.	Delhi	41.00	39.00	95.12	4.88
31.	Lakshadweep	3.00	1.00	33.33	66.67
32.	Pondicherry	25.00	22.00	88.00	12.00
	Total UTs	136.00	70.00	51.47	48.53
	All India Grand Total	142598.00	57055.00	40.01	59.99

**Note:** Figures are as per Land Use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1998-99 and are Provisional.

[English]

### Setting up of Large and Small Nurseries

5311. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether target for setting up of large and small nurseries under the scheme for integrated development of Fruits has not been achieved during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which it has been achieved during the above period; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to achieve the target during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Development of Fruits was implemented for a period of three years during the Ninth Five Year Plan viz. 1997-98 to 1999-2000 and with effect from October 2000 it was subsumed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans. Pending approval of the scheme as per the Ninth Plan mode, it was implemented as per the guidelines of the Eighth Five Year Plan till 1999-2000. During this period 36 large nurseries were established against a target of 32 whereas 209 small nurseries were established against a target of 450.

(d) As per the Macro Management Scheme, the State Governments have been given the flexibility of take up programmes as per their felt needs and requirements and accordingly plan their nursery activity also.

### Bacterial Wilt Resistant Chilli

5312. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bacterial wilt-resistant chilli has been developed in the country;

(b) if so, the characteristics and potential yield of this variety per hectare; and

(c) by when, this variety is to be released for commercial cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bacterial wilt resistant chilli variety, Anugraha has been developed by Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, Thrissur. This variety bears long, light green and medium pungent fruits. The average yield of green chilli fruits is 27 tonnes per hectare.

(c) This variety has already been released by the Kerala State Variety Release Committee in 2002 for commercial cultivation in the State.

### Study on Inter-Linking of River

5313. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICICI Chairman has been appointed to study the financial aspects of the project on inter-linking of rivers;

(b) if so, whether any group of engineers to study the technical feasibilities of the project has also been appointed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Union Government has set-up a Task Force on inter-linking of rivers on December 13, 2002. The Task Force has the following terms of reference:

(i) Provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects in respect of economic viability, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and preparation of resettlement plans;

(ii) Devise suitable mechanism for bringing about speedy consensus amongst the States;

(iii) Prioritize the different project components for preparation of Detailed Project Reports and implementation;

(iv) Propose suitable organizational structure for implementing the project;

(v) Consider various modalities for project funding; and

(vi) Consider international dimensions that may be involved in some project components.

The composition of the Task Force on date is as under:—

1.	Shri Suresh S. Prabhu, Member of Parliament (LS)	—	Chairman
2.	Shri C.C. Patel, Retd. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources	—	Vice-Chairman
3.	Shri Deepak Das Gupta, Retd. IAS Officer	—	Full-Time Member
4.	Shri R.K. Kamath, MD & CEO, ICICI Bank	—	Member
5.	Shri R.K. Pachauri, Director General, Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi	—	Member
6.	Shri Piyush Goyal, Chartered Accountant, Mumbai	—	Member
7.	Shri K. Kasturirangan, Chairman, ISRO, New Delhi	—	Member
8.	Shri G.C. Sahu, Retd. Engineer-in-Chief, Government of Orissa	—	Member
9.	Dr. K. Hari Babu, MLA, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	—	Member
10.	Dr. B.R. Chauhan, a Legal Expert, Delhi	—	Member
11.	Shri B.G. Verghese, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi	—	Member
12.	Dr. C.D. Thatte, Retd. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources	—	Member-Secretary

The Task Force has eminent members from different disciplines namely engineering, finance, etc. and is required to give recommendations on all the aspects related to inter-linking of rivers including technical feasibility and economic viability of the project as per its terms of reference.

[*Translation*]

#### **Delay in Agriculture Development Work**

5314. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have analysed the causes which lead to delay in agriculture development works and implementation of agricultural schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):  
(a) and (b) There has been no substantial delay in the implementation of the agricultural Schemes. Various measures have been taken to prevent the delay through timely formulation and approval of the Schemes, quick release of funds to the State Governments/Implementing Agencies, close interaction and monitoring with the States

and insistence of submission of utilization report in time for further release of funds.

[*English*]

#### **Water Catchment Capacity of Rivers**

5315. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the water catchment capacity of major South and North Indian rivers; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to fix the courses of rivers to be inter-linked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Catchment area of major river basins in Indian territory is as under:

S.No.	Name of the River Basins	Catchment Area (Sq. km.)
1	2	3
1.	Indus	321289
2.	(a) Ganga	861452
	(b) Brahmaputra, Barak & other rivers	236136

1	2	3
3.	Sabarmati	21674
4.	Mahi	34842
5.	Narmada	98796
6.	Tapi	65145
7.	Brahmani & Baitarni	51822
8.	Mahanadi	141589
9.	Godavari	312812
10.	Krishna	258948
11.	Pennar	55213
12.	Cauvery	81155
Total		2540873

(b) The details of river training works for maintaining the course of river at the storage and diversion structures are worked out while preparing the Detailed Project Reports by the concerned State Governments as per their priority. The Inter-linking proposals are at present at the feasibility report level.

[Translation]

**Centrally Sponsored Schemes to  
Increase Water Resources**

5316. SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in the country to assist the State Governments to increase water resources including rain water harvesting;

(b) the allocations made and the funds released to the State Governments during each of the last three years, till-date, scheme-wise; and

(c) the achievements made so far by the State Governments in implementing the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, water resources schemes are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State

Governments of their own resources and as per their priorities. To help the State Governments in their efforts to harness the water from natural resources and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing irrigation schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance. During last three years, an amount of Rs. 7519.8836 crore has been released under AIBP to various States. Under the Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Scheme initiated in 1974-75, an amount of Rs. 451.8299 crore has been released from 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 for 28 States. Besides, Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge of Ground Water" on pilot basis, under which 174 schemes have been approved in various parts of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan. The Scheme has been proposed to be extended during the Tenth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 150 crore. The Ministry of Water Resources has prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 3000 crore with funding pattern of 90:10 between the Centre and beneficiaries for implementation during X Five Year Plan and referred it to the Planning Commission for their 'in principle' approval.

**Memorandum by Gujarat Cooperative Milk  
Marketing Federation**

5317. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from "Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited, Anand" on March 10, 2003 requesting to solve the problems of Milk Producing Co-operative Committees and to protect their active participation in the field of milk production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.



*[English]***Subsidy on Agriculture**

5318. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are eliminating the subsidy on agriculture due to pressure from international unions;

(b) if not, the reasons for reducing the subsidy; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make the agriculture policy farmer-friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under the provisions of WTO Agreement on agriculture, India is under no compulsion to eliminate the subsidies currently given in Agriculture Sector.

(c) To make the Agriculture Policy Farmer-friendly, Government has taken number of steps to improve the conditions of farmers which include special concessions/subsidies to small and marginal farmers under various schemes. Besides, the National Agriculture Policy has underscored the need for ensuring remunerative prices for agricultural produce through the announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSFs) for major agricultural commodities.

*[Translation]***Misutilization of Grants**

5319. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:  
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has sufficient mechanism to ensure that big grants and loans are not misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of frauds committed in the country during the last two years relating to misutilization of grants/loans, State-wise;

(d) whether any investigation has been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following important mechanism have been devised to ensure proper utilization of grants and loans:-

1. Periodical Audit
2. Budget discussion procedure
3. Securitisation of funds by mortgage/hypothecation of deeds
4. Vigilance checks.

Besides, release of margin money grant through banks only after the appraisal of viability of projects and repayment of loans as per the schedule ensured by the banks also acts an effective measure in ensuring proper utilization of loans and grants.

(c) to (e) The State-wise details of such identified cases and action taken are indicated in Statements-I and II enclosed.

**Statement-I***Details of fraud identified in KVIC and Action Taken*

Sl.No.	State	Nature of Fraud	Action Taken
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Two cases in which one institution is found keeping double accounts to claim fictitious rebate and another institution selling non-khadi	Certificate of both institutions has been cancelled and Recovery action against both institutions initiated.

1	2	3	4
		products and claiming benefits	
2.	Maharashtra	One case of Civil construction work which involved one official and a Contractor and Architect	CBI has filed Criminal cases against those involved and KVIC has sanctioned prosecution of one officer
3.	Orissa	Allowing claims for Biogas Plants, not found actually constructed.	CBI, Bhubaneshwar has filed case and investigate the case. KVIC has already dismissed one official, compulsory retired another and imposed major penalty of reduction in basic pay against third official.

**Statement-II***Irregularities Identified and Action Taken against Bank Officials*

Sl.No.	State & Bank name	Type of irregularities	Action Taken
1	2	3	4
1.	MAHARASHTRA		
a.	Central Bank of India, Pandharpur	Claimed Margin Money (MM) for 21 beneficiaries by sanctioning loan but actually released to the extent of Margin Money extent of Margin Money component and except one no. unit is set up under the scheme.	Referred to the Head Office (HO) of the Bank. Margin Money (MM) of Rs. 38.000 lakhs refunded. Disciplinary action is under the way against the Manager concerned by the bank authorities.
b.	Central Bank of India, Nasik	MM is claimed in respect of 22 cases by sanctioning loan but actually not releasing. The inspecting staff of the KVIC and Bank official could not locate the projects and beneficiaries.	MM of Rs. 44.00 lakhs refunded to KVIC. The issue was taken up to H.O. of the Bank and disciplinary action against the Manager concerned.
c.	Union Bank of India, Ghatkopar, Mumbai	MM is claimed in respect of 4 beneficiaries on a single project of different industries not actually established.	MM of Rs. 10.00 lakhs is refunded by the Bank and action is initiated against the Manager concerned.

1	2	3	4
d.	Central Bank of India, Kalbadevi, Mumbai	As above for 12 beneficiaries.	MM of Rs. 24.00 lakhs refunded. The issue was referred to H.O. of the Bank, but H.O. has informed that since MM is refunded, no cause of action is required against the Manager concerned and request to close the case at this end.
e.	Bank of India, Ghatkopar, Mumbai	As above, for 4 beneficiaries	MM of Rs. 10.00 lakhs refunded.
f.	Bank of Maharashtra Pelhar, Dist. Thane	MM in respect of five beneficiaries claimed for existing old units.	MM of Rs. 14.22 lakhs refunded
g.	Bank of Baroda, Bhadgaon, Dist. Jalgaon	MM claimed for car loan showing it as project of Brick Industry.	MM of Rs. 2.23 lakhs refunded and Regional Office of Bank at Nagpur cautioned the Branch Manager.
2. UTTAR PRADESH			
a.	Oriental Bank of Commerce, Amethi	MM is claimed without sanctioning any project under the Scheme.	MM of Rs. 71.00 lakhs refunded back by the Branch at the instance of vigilance Department of the Bank. Bank authorities have been asked to take action.
b.	Oriental Bank of Commerce, Muzaffar Nagar, Meerut	MM is claimed on existing units already sanctioned earlier prior to introduction of REGP.	The matter is referred to Branch for refund of MM of Rs. 9.00 lakhs. Separate inquiry is under the way in the Vigilance Department of KVIC.
3. CHHATTISGARH			
	Punjab National Bank, Raipur	As above.	An amount of Rs. 13.00 lakhs is called back and further inquiry of the involvement of the staff of KVIC is being ascertained.
4. TAMIL NADU			
	UCO Bank, Dindigal	Loan is sanctioned by the Branch Manager to his son.	Branch Manager is suspended by the Bank and inquiry is under way. Necessary documents have been supplied to Inquiry Officer by KVIC.

*[English]*

**Linking of Northern Rivers with  
Peninsular Rivers**

5320. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether international experts on river water management have come forward with proposals on linking of Northern rivers with peninsular rivers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Drought Prone Areas**

5321. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the drought prone areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the relief measures taken by the Government in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) is implemented by the Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development in identified Drought Prone Areas. The scheme is at present implemented in 183 districts in 16 States in the country as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 705.00 crore during the Ninth Plan. The budget allocation of Rs. 295.00 crore has been made for this scheme for the year 2003-04. A total areas of about 98.24 lakh ha. has been treated with an investment of Rs. 1768.24 crores by the end of March, 2002 since inception of the scheme.

**Swindling of Unemployed Persons by  
Fake Companies**

5322. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of fake employment companies are swindling unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such companies in the country;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against these fake companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (d) Employment exchanges function under the administrative and financial control of the State/UT Governments and operate as per the provisions of the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959. Private placement agencies are not covered by this act. Therefore, cases of cheating, if any, by private placement agencies are dealt with under the normal provision of the law by the respective State/UT Governments.

*[English]*

**Upgradation of Airports**

5323. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ambitious plan of the Government to upgrade airports at four metros has been badly affected;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for delay in upgradation of airports; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove hurdles and to upgrade airports in a time bound period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) In order to improve the standard of services, management culture, efficiency and overall productivity and to unlock the potential for economic benefits arising out of well managed airports and to attract private investment required for achieving the above objectives at has been decided to restructure the airports located at

the four metros through long term leasing route. There has been delay in getting the legal framework in place for the proposed leasing as there has been a review to take into consideration the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament on Transport, Tourism & Culture, on Airports Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2000 which was introduced in Parliament during November, 2000.

(c) In the Union Budget for the year 2003-04 it has been announced that the two airports at Delhi and Mumbai will be renovated/modernized. The exact modalities of implementation including requirement of budgetary support are being worked out. Efforts to introduce the modified legislative proposals are also under way.

[*Translation*]

#### **Infrastructure for Agriculture in Rural Areas**

5324. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to take steps for providing infrastructure for agriculture in rural areas; and

(b) if so, by when the farmers in Gujarat are likely to get the said facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Tenth Five Year Plan approved by National Development Council has given major thrust on basic rural infrastructure for agriculture which *inter-alia* include creation and strengthening of storage/cold storage infrastructure, construction of rural godowns, strengthening of marketing, processing and value addition infrastructure, development of minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting and conservation for the development of rainfed areas through watershed approach.

The Tenth Five Year Plan strategies/thrust areas have been taken into consideration by the Government of India while formulating their schemes on strengthening of rural infrastructure for agriculture in all the States including State of Gujarat.

#### **Flying Clubs**

5325. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flying/gliding clubs functioning in National Capital Delhi and in other States as on date;

(b) the date of their establishment and the number of planes with each of them;

(c) the total subsidy and other assistance provided to them during the last three years, year-wise and club-wise;

(d) the status granted to each club by DG Civil Aviation; and

(e) the details of achievements of these flying/gliding clubs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The details of establishment, subsidy and number of planes with flying/gliding clubs in the country are given at Statement enclosed. In addition to subsidy, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has also provided one, two and one Hansa-3 aircraft each to Andhra Pradesh Flying Club, Hyderabad, Kerala Aviation Training Centre, Thiruvananthapuram and Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore respectively during the last three years.

(d) There is no system of giving any rating to flying/gliding clubs by DGCA.

(e) A total of 433 Commercial Pilot Licence (Aircraft) and 108 Commercial Pilot Licence (Helicopter) were issue during the last three years by DGCA. Besides, a total of 61512:32 instructional flying hours were performed by these flying clubs.

#### **Statement**

##### **(A) Flying Clubs/Schools/Institutes under Government subvention scheme**

Name of Flying Clubs with date/ year of establishment	No. of Planes	Amount of subsidy given by DGCA in Rupees		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
Delhi Flying Club 28.05.1923	-(*)	1,89,228	12,373	

1	2	3	4	5
Andaman & Nicobar Flying Training Institute, Port Blair 10/1988	01(*)	Nil	Nil	As the subsidy scheme has been stopped w.e.f. 1.4.2001, no suvention has been paid to the Flying Clubs. Only expenditure incurred by Flying Clubs under SC/ST Scholarship Scheme has been paid.
Andhra Pradesh Flying Club, Hyderabad 8.9.1958	7	1,69,280	Nil	
Assam Flying Club, Guwahati 28.2.1967	2(*)	Nil	Nil	
Bihar Flying Training Institute, Patna 1940	4	Nil	Nil	
Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club, Jamshedpur 1966	3(*)	Nil	60,463	
Gujarat Flying Club, Baroda 20.12.1958	6	3,35,250	10,472	
Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation (HICA), Kamal 1967	14	5,46,067	Nil	
HICA, Hissar 1965				
HICA, Pinjore 1.4.1991				
Government Flying Training School, Bangalore 1948	6(*)	Nil	Nil	
Kerala Aviation Training Institute, Thiruvananthapuram 14.7.1959	5	67,145	10,085	
Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore with one branch at Bhopal 1951	13	5,34,748	84,288	
Bombay Flying Club, Mumbai 9.5.1928	9	45,020	5,687	
Nagpur Flying Club, Nagpur 1948	5(*)	Nil	Nil	
Government Aviation Training Institute, Bhubaneswar 1946	4	1,18,415	1,23,998	
Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar 1962	6	14,439	Nil	
Ludhiana Aviation Club, Ludhiana 1.1.1968	6	1,09,835	Nil	
Northern India Flying Club, Camp at Patiala	7	2,61,950	Nil	
Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala 10/1962	6	1,65,758	Nil	

1	2	3	4	5
Banasthali Vidyapith Flying Club 11.8.1961	-(*)	Nil	Nil	
Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur 31.1.1975	6	2,34,844	21,532	
Coimbatore Aviation Training Academy, Coimbatore 1960	3(*)	Nil	Nil	
Madras Flying Club, Chennai 4.3.1930	07	2,03,628	3,206	
Uttar Pradesh State Flying Training Institute, Kanpur 1.8.1980	11	2,61,425	Nil	
Government Flying Training Institute, Kolkata 7.8.1963	3	Nil	1,593	

**(B) Autonomous Organisation under Ministry of Civil Aviation**

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Furstganj Airfield, Uttar Pradesh 21.3.1985	17	Funded by the Government
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**(C) Private Flying Clubs/Schools/Institutes:—**

Name of Flying/Gliding Clubs with date/year of establishment	Number of Planes
Flytech Aviation Academy, Secunderabad 1.11.1996	5
Wings Aviation Private Limited, Hyderabad 9.10.1998	3
Tata Nagar Aviation, Jamshedpur 22.7.1996	5(*)
Ahmedabad Aviation Akademi, Ahmedabad 1.05.1994	6
Academy of Carver Aviation Private Limited, Mumbai	3
Bangalore Aeronautics Technical Services 12.1.1994	—(*)
Frank Airways Private Limited, Indore 6.11.1992	—(*)
Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, HAL, Rotary Wing Academy, Bangalore	3 Helicopters
Orient Flight School, Pondicherry 26.12.1994	6
Rajputana Aviation Academy, Kota 22.7.1996	4
Garg Aviation Private Limited, Kanpur 11.10.1996	03

**(D) Gliding Clubs under Government subvention scheme**

Name of Flying Clubs with date/ year of establishment	No. of Gliders	Amount of subsidy given by DGCA in Rupees		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Delhi Gliding Club, Delhi 10.11.1964	7(*)	34,891	Nil	As the subsidy scheme has been stopped w.e.f. 1.4.2001, no subvention has been paid to the gliding Clubs.
Gliding & Soaring Centre, Kanpur 27.11.1968	3	12,560	3,648	
Deolali Gliding Club, Nasik 10.8.1962	3	1,00,086	23,294	
Jharkhand Flying Institute, Ranchi 1966	3(*)	Nil	Nil	
Ahmedabad Gliding Club, Ahmedabad 19.10.1961	2	Nil	Nil	
Ludhiana Aviation Club, Ludhiana (Gliding Wing) 1.3.1977	1(*)	Nil	Nil	
Northern India Flying Club, Camp at Patiala (Gliding Wing)	2	Nil	Nil	
Pinjore Branch of HICA (Gliding Wing) 2/1982	2(*)	2,33,022	Nil	
Hissar Branch of HICA (Gliding Wing) 1968				
Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur (Gliding Wing) 19.6.1998	2	6,441	5,355	
Gliding Centre, Pune (Part of DGCA)	13	Part of DGCA		

(\*) Not functioning.

[English]

### Linking of Rivers

5326. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has expressed its doubts about linkage of North Indian with South Indian rivers;

(b) if so, whether the apprehensions of the people of Assam would be taken into consideration before finalisation of river-linking project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA

CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Government of Assam have raised objections on the flood control aspect, minimum flows to be maintained in the rivers, environmental issues involved and power sharing for the proposed dams of Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga (MSTG) link project. These observations were considered and replied by the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) to the State Government. Subsequently, the pre-feasibility report of the MSTG link was accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of NWDA on December 11, 1995 wherein the representative of Government of Assam was also present.

### Tourist Centres

5327. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:



(a) the names of tourist centres in the country which were visited by maximum number of domestic and foreign tourists during each of the last three years;

(b) the total foreign exchange and Indian revenue earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost tourism at these tourist centres?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Statistics of flow of tourists to different tourist centres in the country is not available. However, a statement indicating the number of visits of domestic

and foreign tourists in different States/Union Territories during the last three years is at the statement enclosed.

(b) The foreign exchange earned through tourism during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 are Rs. 14,238 crores, Rs. 14,3444 crores and Rs. 14,420 crores respectively. The information on revenue earned from the tourism sector as a whole is not available.

(c) A series of measures to develop infrastructure with emphasis on integrated circuits, creating cultural and tourism hubs and converging elements of tourism, culture and civic governance have been initiated by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

**Statement**

State/U.T.	2000		2001		2002	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	47998204	78713	52533647	67147	60487370	210310
Arunachal Pradesh	9932	2044	6349	323	3236*	175*
Assam	891433	5954	1010651	6171	2833042*	4262*
Bihar	5520589	73321	6061168	85673	2755154*	164098*
Goa	976804	291709	1047342	260071	1325296	271645
Gujarat	11408281	31748	8272969	30930	573586	34187
Haryana	260442	1113	276287	898	6426763	85281
Himachal Pradesh	4571129	111191	5211772	135760	4958917	144383
Jammu & Kashmir	5393463	19400	5246948	21298	4578404	8269
Karnataka	18000000	208000	14117464	140703	8678170	59545
Kerala	5013221	209933	5240009	208830	5568256	232564
Madhya Pradesh	4796133	111036	5048851	107824	6487773*	111813*
Maharashtra*	8297158	1075169	8479695	915399	10896408	949269
Manipur	105167	429	76527	183	89633	221
Meghalaya	169929	2327	178697	2390	268609	3146
Mizoram	28221	235	28771	152	29417	259
Nagaland	13272	451	9948	920	15973	1200
Orissa	2888392	23723	3109976	22854	3289205	23279
Punjab	385682	3854	474305	3258	305977*	8975*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajasthan	7374391	623100	7757217	608283	8300190	428437
Sikkim	143105	10409	203306	31028	159342	8566
Tamil Nadu	22982262	785876	23812043	773073	41274392	804641
Tripura	231902	0	254912	0	185411*	0
Uttaranchal	—	—	9551669	44429	11818221	55762
Uttar Pradesh	64830000	848000	68071000	795000	73067000	109464
Chhattisgarh	—	—	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Jharkhand	—	—	353177	2979	313134	2244
West Bengal	4737112	197061	4943097	284092	8503573*	531335*
Andaman & Nicobar	85300	3156	84064	5539	49784*	5101*
Chandigarh	486355	14612	482133	15203	549566*	952*
Daman & Diu	74172	8330	580322	10290	595449	6569
Delhi*	1497890	1127950	1324636	830092	1228059	543036
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	408639	223	452000	400	580820*	415*
Lakshadweep	1087	597	3501	650	4180	636
Pondicherry	527274	23878	476804	22115	478327*	18585*
<b>Total</b>	<b>220106941</b>	<b>5893542</b>	<b>234781257</b>	<b>5433957</b>	<b>271840337*</b>	<b>4828624*</b>

\*Estimated.

[Translation]

#### Air Connectivity with Chhattisgarh

5328. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the States having air connectivity with Chhattisgarh State;

(b) the names of State Capitals having air link with Raipur the Capital of Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether the Government propose to link Raipur with the remaining State Capitals;

(d) the other cities of Chhattisgarh having air connectivity; and

(e) the details of scheme proposed to be undertaken to provide its air connectivity to other cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The States of Maharashtra, Orissa and Delhi have airlinked with Chhattisgarh State.

(b) The following state capitals have an airlink with Raipur:—

Mumbai, Bhubaneshwar - (one way), Delhi.

(c) to (e) At present no other cities of Chhattisgarh except Raipur have air connectivity.

Indian Airlines has no plans to link Raipur with the remaining state capitals or introduce new services to/from Chhattisgarh, at present.

Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to

specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

[English]

#### Upgradation of Patna Airport

5329. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patna civil airport has been declared as international airport after the name of Jaya Prakash Narayan;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for modernisation and upgradation of facilities and extension of runway to international standard; and

(c) by when all these facilities are likely to be provided alongwith the amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Patna airport has been renamed as 'Jayaprakash Narayan International Airport'. Custom and Immigration facilities are available there for limited operation of international flights.

(b) and (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plan to modernise Patna Airport by expansion of Terminal building, Apron and provision of Aero-bridges subject to availability of additional land from the State Government of Bihar. Extension of runway at this airport is not feasible.

#### Insurance Claims under NAIS in Orissa

5330. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims received under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and the number out of them settled and the total amount paid to farmers in Orissa during the last three years and thereafter, district-wise;

(b) whether insurance companies have not paid insurance claims so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when it is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Orissa is implementing National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) since its inception i.e. Rabi 1999-2000 season. A Statement indicating district-wise farmers covered, claims paid and number of farmers benefited under the scheme in Orissa during last three years is enclosed.

(b) and (c) All the eligible claims from Rabi 1999-2000 season to Rabi 2001-02 season in Orissa have been settled. However, the claims for Kharif 2002 season are yet to be paid in view of certain discrepancies noticed by the Implementing Agency (IA).

(d) The claims for Kharif 2002 season in Orissa will be settled as soon as the discrepancies are sorted out.

#### Statement

*District-wise farmers covered, claims paid and farmers benefitted during last 3 years in Orissa under NAIS*

Sl.No.	District	1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002		
		Farmers covered	Claims (in Rs.)	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers covered	Claims (in Rs.)	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers covered	Claims (in Rs.)	Farmers Benefitted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Bolangir	70	0	0	29350	121194874.80	29313	755	12302.79	570
2.	Balasore	17183	0	0	40718	2140992.36	4107	18786	2434227.19	6751
3.	Cuttack	23307	0	0	40721	13835911.70	8870	26797	235086.28	1703
4.	Dhenkanal	15623	0	0	32520	79320730.25	29066	13040	559.00	559
5.	Ganjam	21910	0	0	79436	57017838.26	35085	16177	198074.91	794

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Kalahandi	2049	0	0	11775	3983599.17	16181	1209	559.00	559
7.	Keonjhar	9360	0	0	32358	476127.73	2681	5998	753282.70	3301
8.	Koraput	5961	0	0	15492	4024495.09	2234	3807	484603.07	1239
9.	Mayurbhanj	11572	0	0	22870	2428171.25	1479	7940	559.00	559
10.	Phulbani	792	0	0	3567	3455999.85	3543	2070	559.00	559
11.	Puri	6776	0	0	24022	3848509.32	2124	5227	262370.14	731
12.	Sambalpur	3190	0	0	22761	83259459.61	21350	4543	623469.75	1165
13.	Sundergarh	2608	0	0	32747	52434498.23	25363	1622	559.00	559
14.	Sonepur	3842	0	0	18938	31970741.48	14206	2000	559.00	559
15.	Bhadrak	5262	0	0	34174	6194936.60	3440	10350	2886791.53	1966
16.	Jajpur	21220	0	0	45288	21986620.50	29036	16393	304596.30	3571
17.	Jagatsinghpur	1537	0	0	19501	121213.92	37	9649	344613.63	1337
18.	Kendrapada	5961	0	0	32694	3601411.07	6675	12907	559.00	559
19.	Angul	8545	16556	15	37135	116915813.80	32617	6533	559.00	559
20.	Gajapati	4	0	0	9928	182918.85	262	562	559.00	559
21.	Nowapada	102	0	0	9079	30645576.45	9018	1410	559.00	559
22.	Malkangiri	2538	0	0	10626	13534135.77	7746	2761	559.00	559
23.	Nowrangpur	7963	0	0	21971	2361472.85	2609	6032	559.00	559
24.	Rayagada	815	0	0	10544	9197189.67	6984	1553	559.00	559
25.	Khurda	19721	0	0	33126	1753419.62	868	11521	2286677.17	2121
26.	Nayagarh	15158	0	0	20456	2933728.99	1993	5211	559.00	559
27.	Bargarh	17952	0	0	79486	294598998.70	59635	27698	559.00	559
28.	Jharsuguda	105	0	0	17084	68363621.38	17391	1252	559.00	559
29.	Deogarh	857	0	0	6710	11663314.15	6372	2614	559.00	559
30.	Boudh	857	0	0	9897	25764390.29	9443	2515	559.00	559
Total		232836	16556	15	804974	1069210712	375165	212721	10819946.50	19100

**Development of Dudhwa National Park  
in Uttar Pradesh**

5331. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has  
sent any proposal to the Union Government for  
development of Dudhwa National Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount released to the State Government  
during the last year and the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

### **Prices of Coking Coal**

5332. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of coking coal used as fuel for producing steel in the country is high as compared to those in Australia, America, China, Brazil and South Korea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for high prices in India; and

(d) the percentage of the total production cost increased as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[*English*]

### **Infrastructure for Agricultural Research in Gujarat**

5333. SHRI DILEEP SINGHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of infrastructure provided to Gujarat for agricultural research and education;

(b) whether this infrastructure is adequate; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to augment the existing infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Necessary infrastructural support has been provided for agricultural research and education activities in Gujarat through 11 Research Institutes/National Research Centres, one State Agricultural University with four Campus and 61 All India Coordinated Research Projects (List enclosed as statement).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise, Sir.

### **Statement**

*List of Research Institutes and Centres, State Agricultural Universities and All India Coordinated Research Projects undergoing in Gujarat*

#### **1. RESEARCH INSTITUTES AND CENTRES:**

- i. National Research Centre on Groundnut, Junagarh.
- ii. National Research Centre for Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Anand.
- iii. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute-Regional Centre, Veraval.
- iv. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology-Research Centre, Veraval.
- v. Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute-Research Centre, Vadodara.
- vi. Central Horticultural Experiment Station, Vejapur, Panchmahal.
- vii. Central Arid Zone Research Institute—Research Centre, Bhuj.
- viii. Indian Institute of Arid Horticulture—Research Station, Godhra.
- ix. Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology—Research Centre, Surat.
- x. Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute—Research Centre, Valsad.
- xi. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute—Research Centre, Anand.

#### **2. STATE AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITIES:**

- i. Gujarat Agricultural University (GAU), S.K. Nagar, Banaskantha.

#### **3. ALL INDIA COORDINATED RESEARCH PROJECTS (AICRP):**

**Crop Science:** (at centres of Gujarat Agricultural University)

AICRP on Cotton at Surat, Junagarh, Charrodi and Talod,

AICRP on Sugarcane at Navasari

AICRP on Tobacco at Anand

AICRP on Sunflower at Amreli

AICRP on Castor at Dantiwara, Junagarh and Talod  
 AICRP on Sesame at Amreli  
 AICRP on Rapeseed-Maustard at S.K. Nagar  
 AICRP on Groundnut at Junagarh and Vyara  
 AICRP on Chickpea at Junagarh  
 AICRP on Mullarp at S.K. Nagar  
 AICRP on Pigeonpea at S.K. Nagar, and Junagarh  
 AICRP on Arid Legumes at S.K. Nagar  
 AICRP on Rice at Nawagaon  
 AICRP on Wheat at Vijapur and Junagarh  
 AICRP on Maize at Godhra  
 AICRP on Sorghum at Deesa and Surat  
 AICRP on Forage Crops at Anand  
 AICRP on Pearl Millet at Jamnagar  
 AICRP on Under Utilized Crops at S.K. Nagar  
 AICRP on Rodent Control at Junagarh  
 AICRP on Biological Control at Anand  
 AICRP on Agricultural Ornithology at Anand and Junagarh  
 AICRP on Nematodes at Junagarh  
 AICRP on Pesticides Residues at Anand  
 AICRP on Agricultural Acarology at Nawasari  
 AICRP on Breeder Seed Production at Anand and Jamnagar  
 AICRP on Seed Technology Research at Anand and Jamnagar

**Horticulture:**

AICRP on Vegetables at GAU, Junagarh and Anand  
 AICRP on Potato at GAU Research Station, Deesa  
 AICRP on Tuber Crops at GAU, Navasari  
 AICRP on Spices at GAU, Jagudan  
 AICRP on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants at GAU, Anand  
 AICRP on Tropical Fruits at GAU, Gamadevi  
 AICRP on Sub-tropical Fruits at GAU, Parin  
 AICRP on Arid Zone Fruits at GAU, Dantiwara and Mundra  
 AICRP on Betelvine at GAU, Anand

**Natural Resource Management:**

AICRP on Cropping Research at GAU, S.K. Nagar  
 AICRP on Weed Control at GAU, Dantiwara  
 AICRP on Agrometeorology at GAU, Anand  
 AICRP on Dry land Agriculture at GAU, Dantiwara and Rajkot  
 AICRP on Water Management Research at GAU, Nawasari  
 AICRP on Micro and Secondary Nutrients and Pollutant Elements at GAU, Anand

**Animal Science:**

AICRP on Poultry at GAU, Anand  
 AICRP on ADMAS at GAU, Ahmedabad

**Agricultural Engineering:**

AICRP on PHT at GAU, Junagarh  
 AICRP on RES at SPRERI, Vallabh Vidyanagar.

**Declaration of Forests as National Parks**

5334. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments to declare forests in their States as National Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether due to dual control involving the revenue and forest departments of the respective State Governments over forests in the States, led to depletion of forests area drastically; and

(d) if so, the declaration of such forests as national park and the growth of depletion of forest cover in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Power to declare/notify forests under the administrative control of State Governments as National Parks is exercised by the respective State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. There is no overlap of jurisdiction leading to dual control of revenue and forest departments over forest areas which has deleterious impact on them.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Development and Expansion of Fisheries

5335. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided assistance for the Development and expansion of Fisheries to the States particularly Gujarat during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. Union Government extends assistance under various schemes and programmes to the States including Gujarat for the development and expansion of fisheries. Out of Central assistance of Rs. 15264.71 lakh released under these schemes and programmes to the States/UTs during the last 3 years (2000-03), a sum of Rs. 1076.86 lakh has been provided to the State of Gujarat.

(b) State-wise details of assistance extended to the States/UTs during the last three years is enclosed as statement. For the current financial year (2003-04), Rs. 5200 lakh has been provided for extending Central assistance to States/UTs for the development of fisheries.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UTs	Amount released during the period 2000-03
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	591.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	94.22
3.	Assam	19.85
4.	Bihar	90.39
5.	Goa	98.43

1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	1076.86
7.	Haryana	204.09
8.	Himachal Pradesh	97.1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	107.11
10.	Karnataka	955.95
11.	Kerala	1657.06
12.	Madhya Pradesh	164.71
13.	Maharashtra	942.49
14.	Manipur	49.47
15.	Meghalaya	45
16.	Mizoram	128.5
17.	Nagaland	458.42
18.	Orissa	958.61
19.	Punjab	126
20.	Rajasthan	74.26
21.	Sikkim	22.4
22.	Tamil Nadu	2775.51
23.	Tripura	231.29
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1082.08
25.	West Bengal	2109.74
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	203.86
27.	Daman & Diu	167.05
28.	Lakshadweep	4.25
29.	Pondicherry	488.8
30.	Chhattisgarh	98.93
31.	Uttaranchal	27.07
32.	Jharkhand	113.53
Total		15264.71

[Translation]

#### Development of Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries

5336. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Union Government from the Government of Bihar for the Development of animal husbandry, poultry farming and fisheries in South Bihar during the last three years;

(b) how many of them have been approved; and

(c) the details of progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying provide assistance to the State Government mainly to strengthen the infrastructure for the development of Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries. The funds are released to the States on the basis of viable proposals received, funds availability and past utilization of funds. A Statement indicating the proposals received and funds released to the State of Bihar for the development of Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries during the last three years is enclosed.

### **Statement**

*Proposal received and funds released to the State of Bihar during the last three years*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03	
		Propos.	Rel.	Propos.	Rel.	Propos.	Rel.
1.	National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	0.00	0.00	4347.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Assistance to States for Poultry/Duck Farm	0.00	0.00	43.00	31.20	0.00	0.00
3.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	24.00	24.00	35.73	35.73	6.72	6.72
4.	Professional Efficiency Development	1.56	1.56	0.39	0.39	0.49	0.49
5.	Integrated Sample Survey for Livestock production	16.00	16.00	12.00	12.00	15.70	15.70
6.	Livestock Census	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	2.60	2.60
7.	National Welfare of Fishermen	16.88	0.00	47.54	47.54	32.10	32.10
8.	Training & Extension	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

### **Vacant Posts under OBC Category**

5337. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees belonging to other backward Classes (OBCs) under Category A, B, C and D in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry at present, category-wise;

(b) the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs in the Union Government services;

(c) whether the reservation quota of OBCs has been completely filled up in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by when reservation quota for the said classes is likely to be filled up;

(f) whether there is a provision of reservation for the OBCs at the time of their promotion also;

(g) if so, whether the posts reserved for OBCs are filled up by general category candidates in case the candidates belonging to OBC are not available; and



(h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) 27% in Civil Posts/Services are reserved for OBCs.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Allotment of Land for Hanger**

5338. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for allotment of land on lease for construction of hangar as per the rules of Airports Authority of India (AAI);

(b) whether the AAI has received application from M/s. Prime Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. for allotment of land at Indore Airport;

(c) if so, whether the land has been allotted to them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The allotment of land on lease to private companies for the construction of hanger is done by call of tenders through press notification after the proposal and location plan are cleared by the Board of Airports Authority of India for operational and planning point of view.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The company has to participate in the competitive bids through press advertisements.

#### **Foreign Tours by Officers**

5339. DR. MAHENDRA SINGH PAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign tours made by Ministry of Steel Officers and Executives of its Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and purpose of each tour during the last three years and in the current year as on March 31, 2003;

(b) the reasons for steep increase in the said tours and the expenditure incurred during the said period as compared to the corresponding period of three years;

(c) the details of Tour Reports submitted by each of these officers; and

(d) whether the said reports submitted were found satisfactory by the authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

#### **Pending Tourism Development Schemes**

5340. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 1563 tourism development schemes involving Rs. 372.43 crores sanctioned by the Union Government for State Governments and Union Territories during the Ninth Plan have been completed; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith steps proposed by the Government to complete the remaining schemes expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned 1563 Tourism Projects with Central financial component of Rs. 372.43 crores during the 9th Plan in various States and Union Territories. As per information received from State Govts./UT Administrations upto 31.12.2002, 571 of these projects have been completed.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been advised to expedite execution of the remaining projects.

[English]

#### **Awareness Programmes of Coir Board**

5341. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coir Board organises quality awareness programmes in order to improve quality and productivity of coir products;

(b) if so, the number of such programmes organised by coir board during the last three years alongwith name of places and number of manufacturers who participated in the programmes; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness among manufacturers of coir products on the

need for maintaining quality in order to boost its declining exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of quality awareness programmes organised during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Kerala		Tamil Nadu		Karnataka		Andhra Pradesh		Orissa	
	No. of camps	Partici-pants	No. of camps	Partici-pants	No. of camps	Partici-pants	No. of camps	Partici-pants	No. of camps	Partici-pants
2000-01	13	849	6	440	1	65	3	225	3	220
2001-02	8	470	5	300	3	160	2	100	4	252
2002-03	16	665	8	813	10	625	2	61	4	120

The quality improvement camps were conducted at the following places:

#### KERALA

Kozhikode, Badagara, Kannur, Trissur, North Paravur, Cherthala and Kayamkulam

#### TAMIL NADU

Karaikka, Pondicherry, Keezhapazhayar, Mannargudi, Kulithalai and Pollachi

#### KARNATAKA

Neelakhantahally, Bididi, Honnelgere, Arsikere, Gindsi, Tiptur, Channapatna, Kandavara and Albiag (Maharashtra)

#### ORISSA

Patnika, Kusapur, Akalipada and Alhanat

#### ANDHRA PRADESH

Rajamundry and Isukupudi

(c) The Government through the Coir Board has been taking various steps to create awareness among manufacturers of coir products about the need for maintaining quality which include, conducting quality improvement programmes in the motorized coir yarn spinning units, field demonstration on the application of coirret, extending service facilities in dyeing, bleaching

etc. Apart from organizing the quality camps, the Coir Board has been popularizing the use of coirret for improving the quality to green husk fibre used by the spinners for the production of coir yam in the export oriented production centres of Kerala by organizing field demonstrations in association with the coir yam producers.

[Translation]

#### Production of Potato

5342. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of potato production recorded during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the major potato producing States of the country; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of potato in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The production of potato in the country during the last three years is as under:—

Years	Production ('000 MT)
1999-2000	24713.2
2000-2001	22488.4
2001-2002	24082.0

(b) The major potato producing State are: Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Gujarat, Kamataka, Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The Government of India implemented a scheme on "Integrated Development of Vegetables including Root & Tuber Crops" during 9th plan. Since Oct. 2002 the scheme has been subsumed in the scheme on "Macro Management of Agriculture-supplementation/complementation of states' efforts through work plans. Under this scheme states have greater flexibility to prioritize their needs. The programmes of the scheme can now be taken up through work plans. The focus of the scheme is to increase production of vegetables including potato by replacement of old cultivars with improved ones, dissemination of improved technologies on production and post-harvest management through demonstrations, training of farmers etc. Besides, National Seeds Corporation and State Farm Corporation also make available certified seeds to farmers.

The Government through National Horticulture Board provides back-ended capital investment subsidy to entrepreneurs for establishment of cold storage facilities including potato. The Government also supports proposals of State Governments on implementation of market intervention scheme on potato. These measures have helped increase production of potato in the Country.

#### **Development of Tourism in Jammu and Kashmir**

5343. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated/released to Jammu and Kashmir Government during the Ninth Five Year Plan for tourism development;

(b) if so, the works executed in the State during the said period; and

(c) the schemes proposed by the Government to promote tourism in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) During the Ninth Five Year Plan 47 projects for financial assistance of Rs. 1338.10

lakhs have been sanctioned and Rs. 923.76 lakhs released to date in Jammu and Kashmir for development of tourist infrastructure. 20 projects have been completed so far.

(c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated scheme for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Development of Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance to large revenue generating projects for development of tourism infrastructure.

[English]

#### **International Flights from Calicut**

5344. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Flights are being operated from Calicut airport;

(b) if so, whether there is a need to develop the airport;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Air India and Indian Airlines are presently operating international flights from Calicut to various destinations in the Gulf region.

(b) to (d) A scheme for expansion and modification of International Terminal Building at Calicut airport and allied works costing Rs. 89.48 crores has been sanctioned, execution of which is likely to commence during the current financial year.

#### **Bilateral Research Project**

5345. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Guwahati University alongwith an Italian NGO which was asked by UNESCO has taken up a bilateral research project on preservation of cultural heritage of Majuli Island;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to begin;

(c) whether Majuli is considered a cultural treasure trove;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government of Assam has requested the Union Government for assistance; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. UNESCO has informed that a fact finding mission had been undertaken by an Italian expert in January, 2003 representing a Dutch NGO in collaboration with UNESCO to assess and exchange know how on cultural heritage and territorial management of landscapes. No information regarding the participation of Guwahati University.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Majuli island has immense cultural heritage both tangible and intangible, preserved in the Vaishnavite monasteries.

(e) and (f) On request from the Government of Assam, Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 10 lakh for Government of Assam to carry out a feasibility study for development of Majuli island as a tourist resort.

#### **Sethusamundaram Canal Project**

5346. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the techno-economic-environmental assessment study of Sethusamundaram Canal Project has been completed;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to commence work on the project; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Shipping, the techno-economic-environmental assessment study of Sethusamundaram Canal Project has not been completed.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Pending Irrigation Projects**

5347. SHRI KHEL SAI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Chhattisgarh has submitted proposals to the Union Government for approval and clearance of the Banabel Irrigation Project, Gangapur Tank Project and Barodhee Tank Project; and

(b) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The proposal for Banabel Irrigation Project has been accorded in-principle approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 10.07.1998. The proposal for Gangapur Tank Project for forestry clearance has been returned to the State Government on 26.02.2003 as it was not in the prescribed format. In respect of Barodhee Tank Project, additional information has been sought from the State Government on 17.02.2003.

#### **Reduction in Unemployment Level**

5348. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sample Survey (NSS) in its latest analysis on unemployment in the country have indicated that there has not been sizeable movement in the direction of reducing unemployment levels in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the findings of the NSS with regard to the latest position about the unemployment level in the country;

(c) the extent to which the unemployment level has increased/decreased in the States during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have analysed the findings of the NSS; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Estimated unemployment rate on current daily status basis in the country during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 (Latest Survey) was approximately 5.99% and 7.32% respectively.

(c) Unemployment rates in the selected States and All India on current daily status basis are given in the Statement.

(d) and (e) Findings of the National Sample Survey indicate that number of unemployed persons in the country have increased during the period 1994-2000. With a view to address the unemployment problem, Government constituted a Special Group in the Planning Commission to suggest strategies and programme for creation of

10 million job opportunities during each year of the 10th Plan. The recommendations of the Group have been considered while finalising the 10th Plan.

**Statement**

Selected States	Unemployment Rate	
	1999-2000 (%)	1993-94 (%)
Andhra Pradesh	8.03	6.69
Assam	8.03	8.03
Bihar	7.32	6.34
Gujarat	4.55	5.70
Haryana	4.77	6.51
Himachal Pradesh	2.96	1.80
Karnataka	4.57	4.9
Kerala	20.97	15.51
Madhya Pradesh	4.45	3.56
Maharashtra	7.16	5.09
Orissa	7.34	7.30
Punjab	4.03	3.10
Rajasthan	3.13	1.31
Tamil Nadu	11.78	11.41
Uttar Pradesh	4.08	3.45
West Bengal	14.99	10.06
All India	7.32	5.99

**Rehabilitation of Affected Persons of Sardar Sarovar Project**

5349. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people affected in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat due to execution of Sardar Sarovar Project across Narmada river;

(b) whether the Government have taken effective steps for their suitable rehabilitation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the information provided to the Narmada Control Authority (NCA) by the respective State Governments the number of families likely to be affected by submergence at full reservoir level of 138.68 metre of Sardar Sarovar Project across Narmada river are as follows:

Maharashtra	:	3221
Madhya Pradesh		33014
Gujarat	:	4728
Total	:	40963

(b) and (c) The Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) of the Project Affected Families (PAFs) of the Sardar Sarovar Project is the responsibility of the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Each State Governments have made their own R&R packages which are better than the entitlement of rehabilitation benefits as per the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal Award. NCA has approved an Action Plan for raising the dam height to full level *pari-pasu* with the R&R of the PAFs. As per this plan as soon as the R&R of the PAFs are completed to the satisfaction of the monitoring agencies, the NCA will permit the raising the height of the dam in stages. The Union Ministry of Water Resources and NCA are pursuing the matter with the State Governments for early completion of R&R of PAFs as per the approved action plan. Further, the State Governments are also pursuing for early completion of the R&R of PAFs upto the full reservoir level of the Sardar Sarovar dam so as to complete it as early as possible for raising the dam to full height.

**Awarding of Flights to Private Operators**

5350. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the flights awarded to foreign private operators by Civil Aviation Ministry during the last one year;

(b) the number of foreign private operators registered with Civil Aviation Department;

(c) the details of the operators making profit from the award of such flights; and

(d) whether this award has affected the functioning and profit of Indian Airlines and Air India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Airlines are designated by the Government of the respective countries for operating to various international routes as per Air Services Agreements. They have majority ownership and substantive control of the nationals of that country. During the last one year bilateral civil aviation talks have been held with the Governments of Sri Lanka, Singapore, Qatar, Kenya, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Itlay and three Gulf Air Owner States and about 15000 seats per week for each side in each direction have been cleared. Designated airlines of some of these countries have also been given access to additional airports in India.

(b) At present 51 foreign airlines are operating scheduled air services to/from/through India.

(c) Such figures in respect of foreign airlines are not available with the Government of India.

(d) Since the traffic rights are exchanges on the principle of reciprocity, equal rights also accrue to the Indian carriers. Moreover, in case of imbalance in operations, foreign airlines are also required to enter into commercial arrangement with national carriers.

### Coconut Production

5351. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coconut production has increased in various States during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Coconut production has consistently increased in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during the last 3 years. At the All-India level also coconut production has consistently increased because the decline in some states have been more than offset by the increase in other states.

(b) State-wise and year-wise production of Coconut during the last three years are given at Statement enclosed.

### Statement

(Production in million nuts)

State/U.T.	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002*
Andhra Pradesh	1051.8	1092.7	1129.1
Assam	150.0	136.0	163.6
Goa	121.6	125.1	125.1
Karnataka	1671.8	1762.4	1523.4
Kerala	5167.0	5536.0	5744.0
Maharashtra	218.2	244.4	193.8
Orissa	50.5	109.9	109.9
Tamil Nadu	3222.0	3192.0	3293.6
Tripura	7.5	7.0	7.0
West Bengal	324.3	330.5	331.6
A & N Island	88.2	89.0	89.7
Lakshadweep	28.3	36.9	53.1
Pondicherry	27.8	24.7	25.3
<b>All India</b>	<b>12129.0</b>	<b>12686.6</b>	<b>12789.2</b>

\*Provisional

[*Translation*]

**Assistance for Diversification of Agriculture**

5352. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought financial assistance for diversification of agriculture in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Concept Paper on Agricultural Intensification and diversification Project for an amount of Rs. 1792.50 crores for seeking external assistance. The project has been designed for a period of five years to treat an area of 2.5 million ha.

(c) The proposal has been examined in the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and forwarded to planning Commission for approval/comments.

[*English*]

**Assistance to West Bengal under AIBP**

5353. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the amount released to West Bengal under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for various irrigation projects/Centrally Sponsored Projects during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): An amount of Rs. 66.741 crore has been released for 6 major/medium irrigation projects to the Government of West Bengal as Central Loan Assistance under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during the last two years.

**Integrated Development of Fisheries Sector**

5354. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any project for integrated development of fisheries sector in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the financial assistance sought for the project; and

(c) the Government's reaction and decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Kerala submitted proposals seeking financial assistance covering various aspects such as social security measures to extend assistance to fishermen for marriage of their daughters, dependents on their death, development of fishing harbour and fish landing centres, welfare measures and training to fisher women involving financial implication of over Rs. 30 crore.

(c) The Central assistance is extended to the States/UTs on receipt of proposals formulated as per guidelines for the schemes in operation. During 2002-03, Central assistance of Rs. 485.49 lakh has been extended to the Government of Kerala. In case of proposals found not in conformity with the guidelines of existing schemes, States Government has been suggested to reformulate the proposals to avail assistance under programmes implemented by other Departments such as Ministry of Rural Development.

**Implementation of Tourism Schemes**

5355. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken any steps to implement schemes in tourism sector with the help of NGOs in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) the assistance provided to the State Governments during the last three years for implementation of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Development of Fishermen**

5356. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for development of fishermen and to provide them other facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Union Government extends financial assistance to States including Bihar on receipt of proposals formulated as per guidelines of various developmental and welfare schemes in operation. In the 9th Plan (1997-2002), a sum of Rs. 270.45 lakh was provided to Government of Bihar under these schemes in the fishery sector. During 2002-03, Central assistance of Rs. 32.10 lakh has been released to Government of Bihar for construction of 156 houses and installation of 15 tubewells for the benefit of fishermen. The proposal involving financial implication of Rs. 238.74 crore, seeking 100% Central assistance received from Government of Bihar was examined in consultation with the Planning Commission and State Government has been suggested to encourage fish seed production in the private sector under ongoing Government schemes with the help of fishery research institute for higher productivity and fish production.

#### **Expansion of Public Sector Steel Plants**

5357. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps for the expansion of some public sector steel plants;

(b) if so, the names of steel plants which are being expanded/proposed for expansion; and

(c) the estimated amount to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Conversion of Cultivable Land under Irrigation**

5358. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to bring the cultivable land under irrigation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly with regard to Maharashtra;

(c) whether the percentage of irrigated land is proposed to be substantially increased during the Tenth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, all types of irrigation projects/schemes are conceived, planned, investigated and executed by the respective State Governments from their plane allocations and according to their own priorities.

With a view to bring additional areas under irrigation, the Central Government is providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) to the State Governments for expeditious completion of identified ongoing major and medium irrigation/multipurpose projects. Under the Programme Rs. 11541.73 crores has been provided up to the end of March 2003 to 28 States.

The Government of India have introduced a Fast Track Programme under AIBP for providing 100% loan assistance to the States to complete projects in the advanced stage of construction within one year's time.

Maharashtra has received Rs. 416.10 crores upto the end of March 2003 as Central Loan Assistance for 15 ongoing major and medium projects in the State and Rs. 22.16 crores for 6 other projects under the Fast Track Programme during 2002-2003. The Tenth Plan Outlay of Maharashtra for the Irrigation and Flood Control Sector is Rs. 15255.01 crores, which is about 16% of the overall outlay of all States together amounting to Rs. 91849.69 crores.

(c) and (d) As per overall outlay for Irrigation and Flood Control Sector for the States amounting to Rs. 91849.69 crores approved for the Tenth Five Year Plan, the creation of Irrigation potential during the Tenth Plan is likely to increase by above 15% of the existing potential. Targets for creation of additional irrigation potential are fixed by the State Governments on year to year basis depending upon the outlay made available through Annual Plans.

*[Translation]*

#### **Urns of Lord Buddha**

5359. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:



(a) the places in the country from where the urns of Lord Buddha have been discovered during excavation;

(b) whether a task force was constituted in 1984 to make recommendations for proper maintenance of the urns;

(c) if so, the details of those recommendations;

(d) whether the said task force recommended to keep the said urns in the museum;

(e) if so, the whether the State Governments had been asked to provide land and prepare projects before sending the same to the Union Government; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Buddhist relic caskets have been found during excavation in the country at various places namely, Vaishali (Bihar); Amaravati, Battiprolu, Jaggayyapet, Kapavaram and Nagarjunakonda (all five in Andhra Pradesh); Ambaran (Jammu and Kashmir); Piprahwa (Uttar Pradesh); Lalitgiri (Orissa); Sanci, Sonari, Murelkhurd, Andher and Satdhara (all five in Madhya Pradesh); Sanghol (Punjab); Kanheri and Sopara (both in Maharashtra); and Devnimori (Gujarat).

(b) to (f) A Task Force appointed in 1984 by the Union Ministry of Tourism recommended, among other things, to identify sites at Piprahwa, Vaishali and Amaravati for constructing stupas to house the relics of the Buddha. The relic casket found at Amaravati is displayed in the site museum of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) there. Regarding Vaishali, the ASI did not support the proposal of constructing a stupa at the site as it was against the established archaeological norms. Besides it has a site museum there. For housing the excavated material from Ganwaria and Piprahwa (ancient Kapiivastu), the State Government of U.P. has already constructed a museum building at Piprahwa (Distt. Siddharathnagar), U.P.

[English]

#### **Fruit and Vegetables Booths of Mother Dairy**

5360. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the land for setting up of Mother Dairy booths acquired from MCD/NDMC or State Government alongwith the terms and conditions;

(b) whether the said booths have started keeping and selling many other items other than fruit and vegetables;

(c) if so, the list of items other than fruit and vegetables which are sold by booth;

(d) the sources of procurement of such items and whether the items are inferior quality; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to discontinue procurement of such inferior items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The land for setting up of Fruit & Vegetables booths is given on licence by various local & other authorities. The number of sites allotted by various authorities is given below:—

Authorities	No. of sites
Delhi Development Authority	155
Municipal Corporation of Delhi	39
Municipal Corporation of Delhi (S&JJ)	18
New Delhi Municipal Committee	05
Land & Development Office	26
Delhi Administration	02
Delhi Cantonment	02
NOIDA	18
Faridabad HUDA	03
Railways	02
Others	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The list of other items sold by various Fruit and Vegetable booths is given below:—

**Mother Dairy Brand:** Milk in polypack, Ice cream, Delhi Mishti Doi, Lassi, Flavoured milk, Butter.

**Safal Brand:** Frozen vegetables, Jam, Pickle, Puree, Squash, Ketchup, Fruit drink, Rice, Namkeen.

**Dhara Brand:** Various edible oils.

**Products of Various State Cooperative Federation/ Union:** Ghee, Paneer, Cream, Vegetable oil, Spices.

(d) The items sold through Fruit and Vegetable booths are supplied by Mother Dairy Food Processing Limited and various State Cooperative Dairy Federations/Unions. The items sold are not of inferior quality.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

#### **Forged Pollution under Control Certificates**

5361. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that forged pollution under control certificates are issued in Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and some other cities as per recent report of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The World Bank study has identified areas requiring modifications to improve effectiveness of vehicle emission inspection system including Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate system.

(c) The PSU system has been further strengthened by introduction of web camera for recording number plates of vehicles. The PUC certificates are issued by agencies authorised by the State Governments.

#### **Safdarjung Airport**

5362. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to dismantle the landmark Safdarjung Airport and commercialise the area to generate additional revenue;

(b) if so, the details of the plan prepared by the Government therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to preserve the aesthetics and the environment of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plan for appointment of an Architect/Consultant for preparing detailed plan for utilisation of vacant land at various airports of AAI, including Safdarjung Airport.

(c) Consultant proposed to be appointed for this purpose will be required to prepare the proposal in such a manner as to maintain aesthetics and environment of the area.

#### **Construction of Fish Landing Centres**

5363. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:  
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from some States for sanction and release of Central assistance for construction of fish landing centres particularly at Kodibengre in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and

(c) the status of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A statement showing details of ongoing projects in various coastal States, location-wise approved by the Union Government under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of fish landing centres, including Kodibengre in Karnataka, is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States with location of Fish landing Centre, approved under the CSS with 50% financial assistance	Approved Cost	Funds Released against 50% central assistance	Status of the proposals
1	2	3	4	5
<b>(I) ANDHRA PRADESH</b>				
1.	Mangipudi FLC	17.00	2.10	State Govt. has been requested to furnish latest progress report

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Baruva FLC	83.60	22.00	Approved in March 2003. State Govt. is yet to commence construction work.
3.	Perupalem FLC	88.86	24.00	-do-
4.	Gondisamudram FLC	88.86	23.90	-do-
5.	Isakapallipattapupalem FLC	85.62	23.00	-do-
6.	Thatichetlapalem FLC	84.86	23.00	-do-
7.	Navvalarevu FLC	79.35	23.00	-do-
8.	Bandaruvanipeta FLC	79.00	23.00	-do-
9.	Chintapalli FLC	79.77	23.20	-do-
10.	Pudimadaka FLC	78.00	22.60	-do-
11.	Mukkam FLC	79.77	23.20	-do-
12.	Mypadu FLC	81.16	23.525	-do-
(II)	KARNATAKA			
1.	Alvekodi FLC	89.53	10.00	Only 4% of the project work completed.
2.	Belikeri FLC	67.40	25.00	Project work not yet commenced by the States due to modification in the approved proposal by them.
3.	Hejomodikodi FLC	95.00	47.50	90% project work completed.
4.	Kodibengre FLC	55.50	27.75	Jetty opened on 1.10.2000.
(III)	ORISSA			
1.	Kirtania FLC	172.00	86.00	Project nearing completion.
2.	Pendthakata LFC	80.20	5.00	Project work yet to be taken up for construction by the State.
3.	Talasarani FLC	162.10	81.05	Project nearing completion.
4.	Gopalpur on Sea FLC	96.00	48.00	Construction of landing platform, auction hall, net mending shed, pavement & approach road completed.
5.	Hata Baradi FLC	62.00	16.00	Progress report has not received from State.
6.	Nairi Stage-III FLC	38.86	15.00	Progress report has not received from State.
7.	Balugaon FLC	235.50	57.75	Approved in March 2003. State Govt. is yet to commence construction work.
(IV)	MAHARASHTRA			
1.	Sarjekota	30.00	—	Not yet taken up for construction by the State.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Alibagh Koliwada FLC	32.53	16.265	90% of the project work completed.
3.	Edkara Koliwada FLC	38.66	19.33	Work completed. The State is yet to submit completion report.
4.	Tarkali FLC	53.34	26.67	-do-
5.	Achara Peerwada	55.16	27.58	Work in progress.
6.	Taramumbri FLC	97.02	48.51	Work completed. The State is yet to submit completion report.
7.	Rajpuri Koliwada	73.96	36.98	-do-
(V) GUJARAT				
1.	Navabundar FLC	163.30	55.00	Environmental clearance for implementation of the project is being obtained by the State.
2.	Dhamlej FLC	31.00	8.00	Work in progress.
KERALA				
1.	Moylali Kaddapuram FLC	85.20	42.60	Major items of the project are completed.
2.	Kanhangad FLC	28.42	2.50	Not yet commenced the construction works by the State.
3.	Thikkodi FRLC	49.25	24.625	Major items of the project Work completed.
4.	Poovar FLC	26.99	2.50	Not yet commenced the construction works by the State.
5.	Kadapra FLC	18.52	9.26	Work in progress.
6.	Kattor Pollathai FLC	50.25	25.125	Work completed. The State is yet to submit completion report.
TAMIL NADU				
1.	Arcocuttothurai	132.32	35.00	Not yet taken up for construction by the State.
2.	Veerapandiapattinam	132.32	35.00	-do-
3.	Pulicat	132.32	66.16	70% of the project work completed.
4.	Punnakayal	132.32	66.16	80% of the project work completed.
5.	Thengapattinam	132.32	35.00	Not yet taken up for construction by the State.
6.	Mudasalodai	132.32	66.16	80% of the project work completed.
7.	Pamban	132.32	35.00	Not yet taken up for construction by the State.

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Jagathapattinam	132.32	66.16	80% of the project work completed.
9.	Nagapattinam	132.32	35.00	Not yet commenced the construction works by the State.
10.	Sethuapavastram	132.32	66.16	70% of the project work completed.
GOA				
1.	Malim FLC	89.25	44.625	Work in progress.
2.	Cutbona FLC	89.20	44.60	70% of the project work completed
3.	Cortalim FLC	89.31	44.655	85% of the project work completed.

### Low Consumption of Fertilizers

5364. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified low consumption areas of fertilizers in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such areas identified, state-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the level of consumption of fertilizers up to standard level;

(d) whether due to frequent changes in retail price of fertilizers the consumption has gone down; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) The average fertilizer consumption for cropped area in country is 90.1 kg/hectare during 2001-02. The consumption in the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Goa, hilly regions of Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and North Eastern States (except Manipur) is much less than the national average. The consumption of fertilizers in irrigated areas are normally more than the rainfed areas.

(c) The Government is promoting integrated water, nutrient and water shed management practices and also soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers along with organic manures and bio-fertilizers for augmenting higher nutrient use in low fertilizer consuming areas of the country.

The Government is also implementing a scheme "on farm water management for increasing crop production in

Eastern India" for optimal utilization of ground water resources for increasing fertilizer consumption and crop productivity in these areas.

(d) and (e) The consumption of fertilizers had declined during 2000-01 and 2002-03 mainly due to drought conditions prevailed in the country and not due to increase in MRPs in fertilizers.

[Translation]

### Persons Injured/Died due to Blasting under the CCL, Dhori Region

5365. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons injured/died so far in blasting done in course of expansion of Amlo Project under the CLL, Dhori region in Bokaro district of Jharkhand State;

(b) whether sufficient compensation has been paid to the family members of injured/died persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of cases regarding payment of compensation under consideration as on date and by when these are proposed to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) During the last ten years only one accident has been reported on 10.12.1998 due to blasting in Amlo Project under Central Coalfields Limited. Dhori Region to the

Directorate General of Mines Safety. One persons were killed and another had received minor injuries in this accident.

(b) to (d) The compensation was not paid as the person who was killed was not employed in the mine. However, an amount of Rs. 15,000 was paid to the family for funeral expenses by the management.

(e) The payment of compensation is not regulated by the Directorate General of Mines Safety therefore these details are not available with the Ministry.

[English]

#### **Amount for Cooperative Sector in Kerala**

5366. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned by the National Co-operative Development Corporation in the co-operative sector of Kerala during the last three years; in addition to:

(b) the amount proposed to be spent during the year 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) has sanctioned Rs. 187.847 crore in the Co-operative sector of Kerala during the last three years (2000-01 to 2002-03).

(b) State-wise outlay is decided on the basis of utilization of funds in the previous year and programmes proposed to be taken up during the next year. The Outlay of Kerala is likely to be about Rs. 50.00 crore for the year 2003-2004.

[Translation]

#### **Illegal Migration**

5367. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons went abroad in search in jobs during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons illegally gone abroad and doing jobs there for the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) 8.90 lakh persons were given emigration clearance by the Protectors of Emigrants for taking-up employment abroad during the last three years.

(b) No such data is maintained.

(c) Whenever any instances of illegal migration comes to the notice of the Government, action is taken in co-ordination with our concerned Mission for repatriation of the illegal migrants and simultaneously reports are filed with the concerned Police authorities for investigation and prosecution under the law. If any registered Recruiting Agent is involved, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration and file complaint with the Police authorities.

[English]

#### **Radar System used by AAI**

5368. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about use of secondary radars by Airports Authority of India (AAI);

(b) if so, whether Indian Air Force had suggested to AAI to use primary radars;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in acquiring primary radars; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by AAI to acquire primary radars for ensuring air safety at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. However, Airports Authority of India (AAI) do not have any requirement of primary radars for Air Traffic Control purposes for civil operations. As such AAI has no plan to provide primary radars.

(d) Secondary radars installed by AAI are sufficient to ensure safety of air operations as required by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

#### Setting up of Marketing Yards and Godowns

5369. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for setting up of marketing yards and Government godowns, for providing additional storage and marketing facilities to the farmers have been submitted by several State Governments including Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposals received from the State Governments during the last three years are still pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when approval is likely to be accorded alongwith the amount of assistance proposed to be provided, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Government has introduced a Central Sector Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/renovation/expansion of Rural Godowns. The scheme has been implemented by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, an attached office of this Ministry through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). No proposal has been received from the State Government of Gujarat for construction of Rural Godowns.

Under the scheme of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) implemented by NABARD for construction of marketing yards and godowns, the State Governments of Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala and Tripura have availed loans for construction of market yards and godowns. No proposal has been received from State Governments of Gujarat seeking assistance under RIDF for construction of market yards/godowns.

A statement indicating the details of schemes sanctioned for market yards/godowns under RIDF by NABARD is enclosed.

Information in respect of remaining States is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

#### Statewise Position on Schemes Sanctioned for Market Yards/Godowns under RIDF

(Rs. in Crore)

RIDF Transche/ State	Number of Schemes	Amount Sanctioned
RIDF-III		
Jammu	18	20.93
RIDF-V		
Karnataka	7	2.12
RIDF-VI		
Karnataka	13	2.19
Tripura	5	4.05
RIDF-VII		
Bihar	1311	39.30
Karnataka	16	1.81
Kerala	108	9.72
Total	1478	80.12

#### Protection and Conservation of Rich Cultural Heritage

5370. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a scheme namely protection and conservation of the historical monuments of rich cultural heritage to the Union Government in February, 2002 for grant of financial assistance; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra has not requested the Central Government for conservation of any important historical monument of rich heritage of February, 2002. However, the Central Government has undertaken several projects for conservation of centrally protected monuments in Maharashtra and incurred an expenditure of Rs. 319.87 lakhs during the year 2002-2003.

**Protection to Workers of Chromite Mines**

5371. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of the Chromite Mines in Sukinda Valley in Orissa are not providing adequate protection to the workers who are suffering from TB and other diseases due to increasing pollution in those areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the mine workers in those areas from the health hazard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are detailed provisions under Regulation 124 of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations 1961 for protection against dust and in Rule 29B of the Mines Rules, 1955 for pre-employment and periodical medical examinations of the mine workers every 5 years. The status of compliance with these provisions in mines is being checked by the officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety during their inspections and take actions to secure compliance if any deficiencies are noticed.

**Ground Handling Services at Airports**

5372. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:  
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:  
SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that their decision regarding entrusting ground handling exclusively to Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) would adversely affect the private airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the reasons for ignoring the interest of the private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to

(c) Represented received in this regard are under consideration.

**Recovery of Subsidy of KVIC**

5373. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a lot of units and entrepreneurs owe huge amount of money to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for production of Khadi;

(b) if so, whether subsidy was drawn by such units without ever proceeding khadi;

(c) if so, the details of such units alongwith the outstanding dues against them;

(d) whether KVIC has not made any serious efforts to recover the dues;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to recover the said dues alongwith efforts made to improve the financial conditions of KVIC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Subsidy to units producing khadi is provided in the form of rebate which is based on the retail sales and not on khadi production. In the case of subsidy in the form of interest, under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate Scheme (ISEC) it is released to financing Banks on the principle of utilization.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has been making concerted efforts to recover its dues from the State Boards and Khadi institutions. Dues in the form of working funds are not recovered as the implementing agencies can retain the same and re-use for continued production of khadi. Only capital expenditure loans are to be repaid in installments. KVIC has already recovered Rs. 172.50 crore of the principal due upto 31.03.2002. Further as per the provision in the KVIC Act (section 19-B) cases are also filed for recovery in the competent courts in various States. Besides, recovery performance of KVIC is being monitored to ensure speedy and effective recovery of dues.



**Minimum Support Price**

5374. SHRI C.N. SINGH:  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small farmers in the country fail to receive Minimum Support Price (MSP) of various crops due to nexus between middle men and Government officers;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Union Government, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to provide the benefits of MSP of various crops directly to the small farmers;

(d) if so, by when this plan is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to promote horticulture and organic agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Government fixed each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (F.C.I.—paddy, wheat and coarse cereals) Jute Corporation of India (J.C.I.—Jute), Cotton Corporation of India CCI (Cotton), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED—pulses and oilseeds) and Tobacco Board (Tobacco), besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The designated Central Nodal Agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking purchase operations in case, the market prices fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government. There has been massive procurement of major agricultural commodities in recent years. The procurement operations are monitored and instances of prices ruling below the MSPs are referred to be concerned Departments/Ministries for necessary action.

(e) The Government is implementing several schemes for promoting horticulture and these include Integrated Programme for Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern region including Sikkim and various schemes undertaken by the National Horticulture Board and Coconut Development Board etc.

During the 10th Five Year Plan, a proposal for a new scheme, "National Project on Organic Farming" is under process which includes setting up of a National Institute of Organic Farming, capacity building for organic farming, promotion and extension of organic farming etc.

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Special Rural Industries Fund**

5375. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to set up "Special Rural Industries Fund" to boost industrial development in the villages in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide special concessions and incentives to develop industries in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the State Governments are likely to be informed to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government is already implementing various Schemes and Programmes for development of industries in the rural areas. Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) being implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in the country, margin money assistance is provided at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10.00 lakhs and for the projects above Rs. 10.00 lakhs and upto 25.00 lakhs, rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10.00 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women/Physically Handicapped/Ex-servicemen and minority Community beneficiary/institution and for hill border and tribal areas, North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10.00 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs it is 30% of 10.00 lakhs plus 10% of the remaining cost of the projects.

[*English*]

**Rehabilitation of Displaced Families of Bina River Project**

5376. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families likely to be displaced on execution of Bina River Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the steps proposed by the Government of their rehabilitation; and

(c) the progress made so far on the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As reported by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Bina River Project is presently under investigation stage and hence number of families to be displaced cannot be given.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Irregularities in Import of Infected Plant Material**

5377. COL (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out in para 6.2 in the Report No. 2 of 2002 on loss of revenue;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have investigated the circumstances under which Plant Protection Officer failed to inspect imported plant material during 1987 to 2000 resulting risk of import of infected plant material into the country and revenue loss of Rs. 1.66 crore.

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Report of the C&AG, import of all consignments of plant material into the country, from September 1987 to July 2000, without necessary certification resulted in the risk of import of infected plant material into the country and loss of revenue of Rs. 1.66 crore as also expenditure of Rs. 81.59 lakh incurred on the office during the period was infructuous. The Customs authorities were also at fault in releasing consignments without certification from Plant Protection Officer and the case calls for investigation both by Customs authorities and Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) to (f) Comments of the Department have already been sent to Director (Inspection), Office of the Director of Audit (Central), Kolkata. A statement is enclosed. Since July 2000, Customs authorities are referring the consignments and the same are being subjected to quarantine inspection.

#### **Statement**

*Draft Paragraph on 'Loans of Revenue' relating to Plant Quarantine Station, Kalimpong for inclusion in CAG's Audit Report, Union Govt. (Civil) for the year ended 31.3.01*

#### **Points of irregularities**

1. From September 1987 to July 2000 all consignments of imported plant material were allowed into the country without necessary certification from the PPO. The gross negligence and failure resulted in the risk of import of infected plant material into the country and a revenue loss of Rs. 1.66 crore for the period September 1987 to July 2000.
2. Since PPO did not carry out a single such inspection of infected plant material, a large part of the expenditure incurred during the period September 1987 to July 2000 on his office amounting to Rs. 81.59 lakh was infructuous.

#### **Comments**

The audit themselves have observed that PPO could not inspect imported consignments of agricultural products for the period since inspection of the Plant Quarantine Station in September 1987 to July 2000 because the customs authorities, (for when it was obligatory to release these consignments only after inspection and clearance certificate from the PPO did not refer the consignments to Plant Quarantine Station (PPO), Panitanki and released the imported consignments without such inspection. It was also observed by the audit that the Superintendent of Customs, Land Customs Station, Panitanki wrote to the Asstt. Commissioner of Customs, Naxalbari Division only in December 1998 seeking instructions in this regard. Due to non-receipt of instructions, the Superintendent of Customs, Land Customs Station, Panitanki did not refer any consignment of imported plant material to the PPO till July 2000. Inspections by the PPO could commence only from August 2000 after these were referred to him (PPO). It is further stated that non-inspection of agricultural commodities at Plant Quarantine Station, Panitanki during the period under report was neither due to negligence nor failure in anyway on the part of the Plant Protection

Officer at Plant Quarantine Station, Panitanki as the Plant Quarantine Officer neither had any access nor any authority to inspect such consignments unless referred to them by Customs Department through an official endorsement on the body of the bill of entry/import documents. No importers or their customs agents approached the Plant Protection Officer, Panitanki with the bills of entry during the period under reference. It is further mentioned that Customs Officers at L.C.S., Panitanki did not refer any such consignments in spite of several instructions by their Senior Officers from the time to time.

Opening of Plant Quarantine Station at Panitanki was an essential step towards implementation of legal/statutory requirements under DIP Act 1914 and provisions of PFS Order, 1989. Non-inspection of materials during the period under report was beyond the control of Plant Protection Officer (PPO) as the competent custom authorities did not refer the plant materials to the PQ Station, Panitanki, for inspection/release. However, since the inception of the Plant Quarantine Station, Panitanki in September 1987, the issuance of PSCs, which is not linked with the Customs Authorities, has been continuing there as a major Plant Quarantine activity.

#### **Points of Irregularities**

3. The Customs authorities were also at fault in releasing the consignments without inspection and certifications from the PPO.
4. The case calls for investigation both by the Customs authorities and Ministry of Agriculture for such serious lapses, which, besides causing financial losses, also exposed the country to the risk of getting infected plant material into the country.

#### **Comments**

The Plant Protection Officer of other Plant Quarantine officials at Panitanki were not a fault. As Customs authorities did not refer the consignments and released them without being inspected from Plant Quarantine angle, they are responsible for the lapse on their part, though it was legal binding responsibility on them to refer the plant/plant materials to Plant Quarantine Station, Panitanki. Further, it is stated that all possible steps were taken by Plant Quarantine Officials from time to time and the Customs authorities approached to get the consignments referred for PQ inspection.

In view of the foregoing facts and also in the light of efforts made by PPO, Panitanki to get the

consignments referred for Plant Quarantine inspection, it is requested that audit paragraphs may kindly be dropped from the Audit Report with reference to Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage and Plant Quarantine Station, Panitanki.

#### **Withdrawal of C.I.T.U. and A.I.T.U.C. from Labour Board**

5378. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representative of C.I.T.U. and A.I.T.U.C. have been withdrawn from the labour board; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Six employees' organizations were requested to provide a panel of names for finalizing the nominees on the Central Board of Trustees. However, the panel of names have not been received from A.I.T.U.C. and C.I.T.U. and they have again been requested to provide the panel of names.

#### **Introduction of Information Technology in FPI**

5379. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has decided to introduce information technology in the area of Food Processing Industries (FPI);

(b) if so, whether the removal of quantitative restrictions has a major impact on the FPI;

(c) the extent to which the Maharashtra Government has been able to get more foreign investment for FPI; and

(d) the assistance that the Union Government have agreed to provide for development of FPI in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Govt. of Maharashtra have informed that no specific decision in this regard has been taken.

(b) The figures of import of majority of processed food items during the period April-November, 2002 do not show any major change as compared to the period

April-November 2001, except for crude palm oils & its fraction, other soya oil & its fraction.

(c) From July 1991 to November 2002, 125 FDI proposals with a total investment of Rs. 1207.15 crores have been approved for Maharashtra.

(d) The schemes of the Ministry are not state or region specific. Hence no specific funds have been allocated for the development of FPI in Maharashtra.

#### **Cabin Crew on Hire**

5380. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India's recent effort to hire 300 cabin crew on contract basis was thwarted by workers/staff unions;

(b) if so, whether Air India had to recruit cabin crew on regular basis;

(c) whether most of the international carriers have a flexible recruitment policy; and

(d) if so, the reasons for capitulation of Air India before the pressure tactics of trade unions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Air India earlier decided to recruit staff on contract basis of flying/ground duties, in order to meet the urgent requirements. Subsequently it was felt that the need for additional cabin crew would exist for a longer period. Therefore, it was decided to appoint the cabin crew on regular basis.

(c) and (d) The policy varies from Airline to Airline, while some have staff on contract basis, the others have regular employees.

#### **Slums near Mumbai Airport**

5381. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land in Mumbai and Mumbai Suburban District owned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) under occupation of slum colonies;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has launched a scheme for providing free housing to the slum dwellers;

(c) if so, whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government for a No-objection

Certificate (NoC) for implementing the scheme on the Government land;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and since when such a request is pending with the Union Government; and

(e) the reasons for delay and by when the NoC is likely to be issued to the Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) A total area of approximately 160 acres is under occupation of slum colonies. Out of this approximately 30 acres are occupied at Juhu Airport and 130 acres at Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai.

(b) State Government has launched a programme of free housing to the slum dwellers residing on State Government land, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's land, State Undertaking's land and Semi-Government Organisation's land also on private declared land in Mumbai under "Slum Rehabilitation Programme".

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Setting up of Pulses Development Board**

5382. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pulses (toor dal) development board which was set up in Karnataka recently is in serious financial problems;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Union Government for financial assistance to the board; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise

(c) Question does not arise

#### **Flood Prone Zones**

5383. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has identified flood prone districts and zones in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of flood prone districts and zones and the rivers which are causing floods;

(c) whether a comprehensive action plan has been proposed for Tenth Plan to control flood from those rivers which are linked with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Rashtriya Barh Ayog has assessed 40 m.ha. as flood prone area in the country. The State-wise breakup is enclosed as statement-I. The statewise list of districts identified by RBA for urgent attention is enclosed as statement-II. Names of the districts affected by floods are being reported by the Revenue authorities of some of the States alongwith the information on flood damage. Based on this information, State-wise list of districts affected by floods at least once during last five years is enclosed as statement-III. The Brahmaputra, Barak and their tributaries and Teesta, Torsa, Jaldhaka in Brahmaputra region, Ganga & Yamuna and their northern as well as southern Bank tributaries in Ganga region, Jhelum, Ravi, Chenab in north west region and Mahanadi, Subarnarekha, Brahmani, Baitarni in Central & Daccan region are mainly causing floods.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is having continuous dialogue with the neighbouring countries including Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan in the field of development of water resources. Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project & Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme has been agreed with Nepal to be taken up for field investigations, studies and preparation of Detailed Project Report for which a Joint Project Office is being setup in Nepal. The project will *inter alia* have flood control benefits. A scheme on "flood forecasting and warning system on rivers common to India and Nepal" is in operation since 1989. In addition, a Standing Committee on Inundation problems is also functioning for dealing with the problems of Inundation in the vicinity of India and Nepal Border. A joint Committee on Water Resources has also been setup to have interaction at higher level pertaining to the cooperation in the field of Water Resources, including implementation of existing agreements and understanding.

As regards Bhutan a "Comprehensive Scheme for Establishment of Hydrometeorological and Flood Forecasting Network on rivers common to India and Bhutan" having 35 hydro meteorological stations located

in Bhutan is in operation. The data received from these stations is utilised for formulating the flood forecasts in India.

In respect of Bangladesh, being lower riparian there are no flood related problems so far as India is concerned.

**Statement-I**

*The State-wise breakup of area liable to floods (as per Rashtriya Barh Ayog)*

Sl. No.	State	Area liable to flood (m.ha.)	Area protected (m.ha.) as considered by RBA
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.39	0.700
2.	Assam	3.15	1.305
3.	Bihar	4.26	1.566
4.	Gujarat	1.39	0.362
5.	Haryana	2.35	1.095
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.23	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.08	0.012
8.	Karnataka	0.02	0.001
9.	Kerala	0.87	0.011
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.26	—
11.	Maharashtra	0.23	0.001
12.	Manipur	0.08	0.073
13.	Meghalaya	0.02	0.075
14.	Orissa	1.40	0.351
15.	Punjab	3.70	2.407
16.	Rajasthan	3.26	0.016
17.	Tamil Nadu	0.45	0.029
18.	Tripura	0.33	0.009
19.	Uttar Pradesh	7.34	0.739
20.	West Bengal	2.65	1.001

1	2	3	4
21.	Delhi	0.05	0.023
22.	Pondicherry	0.01	Neg.
Total		33.52	9.776
Say		35 m.ha.	10.00 m.ha.

From the above table, the total Flood Prone Area in the country is as below:

- (a) Flood Prone Area in States 34.0 m.ha.  
 (b) Area protected in States till then 10.0 m.ha.

Area flooded due to failure of protection works which might have been included in reported flooded area (assumed) (-) 4.00 m.ha.

Total flood prone area in the country 40.00 million ha.

#### **Statement-II**

*List of Flood Prone Districts in the Country as reported by the Rashtriya Barh Ayog (RBA) for urgent attention*

Andhra Pradesh	Khammam, East & West Godavari, Mehboob Nagar, Nalgonda, Krishna, Guntur, Nellore, Cuddapah and Srikakulam
Assam	Sibsagar, Nowgong, Lakhimpur, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Cachar and Dibrugarh
Bihar	Saharsa, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr, Purnea, Chapra (Saran), West Champaran (Bettaih), Santhal Pargana, Bhagalpur, Bhojpur (Shahbad), Katihar, Madhubani, Sitamarhi, Vaishali,

	Samastipur, Bagusarai, Patna, Palamau, Gopalganj, East Champaran (Motohari), Gaya, Siwan, Rohatas, Nalanda and Aurangabad.
Gujarat	Mehsana, Sabarkantha, Junagarh, Kheda, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Valsad, Gandhinagar, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surrenderanagar, Bhavnagar, Banaskantha, Amreli, Ahmedabad and Surat
H.P.	Una, Kangra and Mandi
J&K	Baramulah, Anantnag and Srinagar
Karnataka	Uttar Kannada and Daskhina Kannada
Madhya Pradesh	Hoshangabad, Sehore, Kharangene, Bhopal and Vidisha
Punjab	Ludhiana, Ferozepur, Sangrur, Faridkot and Amritsar
U.P.	Furrukhabad, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Gazipur, Ballia, Azamgarh, Hamirpur, Barabanki, Aligarh, Mathura, Agra, Saharanpur, Gorakhpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bullandshahr, Meerut, Deoria, Gonda, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Hardoi, Faizabad, Rai-Bareilly, Basti, Lucknow and Bhabraich
West Bengal	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, West Dinapur, Cooch Bihar, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Birbhum, 24 Paraganas, Hooghly, Midnapore, and Burdwan.

#### **Statement-III**

*Statewise list of districts affected by flood at least once during last five year i.e. 1998 to 2002*

S.No.	Bihar	UP	West Bengal	Assam	HP	Gujarat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Muzaffarpur	Bharaich	Nadia	Dhemaji	Kangra	Mehsana
2.	East Champaran (Motohari)	Kushinagar	Murshidabad	North Lakhimpur	Shimla	Sabarkantha
3.	West Champaran (Bettaih)	Sant Kabir Nagar	Dakshin Dinajpur	Karbi Anglong	Mandi	Navsari

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Sitamathi	Bijnour	Burdwan	Jorhat	Solan	Anand
5.	Seohar	Gonda	Bankura	Dibrugarh	Simaur	Kheda
6.	Saran	Deoria	Purlia	Sonitpur	Bilaspur	Jamnagar
7.	Siwan	Basti	Midnapur	Golaghat	Kullu	Dahod
8.	Gopalganj	Barabanki	Howrah	Dhubri	Hamirpur	Rajkot
9.	Darbhanga	Kheri	Hoogly	Bongaigaon	Una	Valsad
10.	Samastipur	Farukhabad	24 Parganas(S)	Sibsagar	Chamba	Gandhinagar
11.	Madhubani	Kannauj	24 Parganas(N)	Nagaon	Kinnaur	Vadodara
12.	Saharsa	Shahjahanpur	Malda	Barpeta	Lahaul	Bharuch
13.	Supaul	Hardoi	Uttar Dinajpur	Nalbari	Spiti	Narmada
14.	Madhepura	Gorakhpur	Birbhum	Kamrup		Sundarnagar
15.	Patna	Sidharthnagar	Kolkatta	Goalpara		Bhavnagar
16.	Nalanda	Maharajganj		Tinsukia		Banaskantha
17.	Katihar	Chandoli		Morigaon		Amreli
18.	Khagaria	Bareilly		Haflong		Ahmedabad
19.	Bagusarai	Azamgarh		Darrang		Dangs
20.	Shekhpura			Cachar		Junagarh
21.	Lakhi Sarai			Kokrajhar		Kachchh
22.	Purnia			Haflakandi		Panchmahal
23.	Araria			Karimganj		Patan
24.	Kishanganj					Porebandar
25.	Bhagalpur					Surat
26.	Vaishali					
27.	Sahebganj					
28.	Jehanabad					
29.	Pakur					
30.	Mungher					
31.	Banka					

S. No.	Arunachal Pradesh	Orissa	Punjab	Maharashtra	Rajasthan	Meghalaya
1.	Tawang	Angul	Patiala	Gadchiroli	Alwar	Tura
2.	West Kameng	Balangir	Kapurthala	Yavatmal	Banswara	Baghmara
3.	East Kameng	Balasore	Amritsar	Wardha	Bharatpur	Nongstoin
4.	Lower Subansiri	Bhadrak	Faridkot	Chandarpur	Bikaner	Shillong
5.	Papumpare	Cuttack	Bhatinda	Bhandara	Churu	Jowai
6.	Upper Subansiri	Jagatsinghpur	Monga		Dausa	
7.	West Siang	Mayurbhanj	Gurdaspur		Jaipur	
8.	East Siang	Kendrapara	Sangrur		Jhalwar	
9.	Upper Siang	Nabarangpur	Hoshiarpur		Jhunjhunu	
10.	Debang Valley	Nuapada	Mansa		Karauli	
11.	Lohit	Sabhalpur Khurda			Sawai Madhopur	
12.	Changlang	Kalahandi			Nagaur	
13.	Tirap	Puri			Kota	
14.		Keonjhar			Sikar	
15.		Nayagarh			Tonk	
16.		Tajpur			Baran	
17.		Sundargarh			Bhilwara	
18.		Khenkanal			Bundi	
19.		Koraput			Cittorgarh	
20.					Ganganagar	
21.					Jaisalmer	
22.					Pali	
23.					Barmer	
24.					Sirohi	
25.					Jalore	



S.No.	Tamil Nadu
1.	Chennai
2.	Kancheepuram
3.	Thiruvananthi
4.	Villupuram
5.	Cuddalore
6.	Nagapattinam
7.	Thiruvallur
8.	Jhansjavur
9.	Parambalar
10.	Tiruchirapalli
11.	Karur
12.	Dingigul
13.	Pudukkotai
14.	Madurai
15.	Theni
16.	Virudhunagar
17.	Sivaganga
18.	Ramanathapuram
19.	Toothukkundi
20.	Tirunelveli
21.	Kanniyakumari
22.	The Nilgiris
23.	Coimbatore
24.	Erode
25.	Namakkal
26.	Salem
27.	Dharmapuri

**Requirement of Oilseeds/Pulses**

5384. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the total requirement of oilseeds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase production of oilseeds and pulses to attain self-reliance during Tenth Plan period; and

(d) the details of oilseeds and pulses imported/exported during the Ninth Plan period indicating the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has assessed the requirement of 270.00 lakh tonnes for oilseeds during the year 2002-03. State-wise requirement of oilseeds/edible oil is not worked out whereas same is worked out for the country as a whole. However, State-wise production target of oilseeds during 2002-03 making a total of 270.00 lakh tonnes in the country is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) In order to increase the production of oilseeds and pulses and to make the country self reliant in the production of these crops, two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) are under implementation. Under both the schemes, financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture and micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst the farmers frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. and the block demonstrations by the State Department of Agriculture.

(d) The details of Oilseeds and Pulses imported and exported during the Ninth Plan period along with the cost thereof are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Production Target of Oilseeds during 2002-03*

(In lakh tonnes)

Sl.No.	States	Production Target for oilseeds
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.50
2.	Assam	1.95
3.	Bihar	4.55
4.	Gujarat	33.70

1	2	3	1	2	3
5.	Haryana	10.20	12.	Rajasthan	34.30
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.50	13.	Tamil Nadu	18.70
7.	Karnataka	18.05	14.	Uttar Pradesh	17.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	58.35	15.	West Bengal	4.90
9.	Maharashtra	26.85	16.	Others	0.90
10.	Orissa	6.20			
11.	Punjab	3.35		Total	270.00

**Statement-II***Details of Oilseeds and Pulses imported and exported during the Ninth Plan period***Import**

Year	Oilseeds		Pulses	
	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (in crores Rs.)	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (in crores Rs.)
1997-98	—	2.47	10.08	1194.64
1998-99	—	8.52	5.64	708.81
1999-2000	—	15.42	2.51	354.69
2000-2001	—	7.21	3.49	498.47
2001-2002	—	1.35	21.77	3155.66

**Export**

Year	Oilseeds		Pulses	
	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (in crores Rs.)	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (in crores Rs.)
1997-98	3.75	868.8	1.68	360.89
1998-99	1.64	463.1	1.04	223.03
1999-2000	2.69	745.5	1.94	419.56
2000-2001	4.13	911.7	2.44	537.08
2001-2002	3.73	860.3	1.60	366.18

**Financial Assistance for Industrial Training to Women**

5385. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided for imparting industrial training to women in the country during the last three years, State-wise & institution-wise;

(b) the number of women benefited during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether any irregularities have come to the notice of the Government regarding misutilisation of central assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) are administered and funded by the respective State Governments/Union Territories. For the North East region, however, there is a special project for which financial assistance is being extended by Government of India. During the last two years financial assistance to the following Women ITIs of North-East Region has been provided mainly for construction and renovation of the Institute's buildings.

S.No.	State	Women ITI located at	Financial Assistance during last two years (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Yupia	105.00
2.	Nagaland	Dimapur	38.50
3.	Manipur	Takyel	0.13
4.	Meghalaya	Shillong	36.136
5.	Tripura	Indranagar	6.00
6.	Assam	Majbat	8.49

(b) The financial assistance is primarily for development of infrastructure of the North East Region and actual training will be undertaken after completion of training infrastructure.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Communication and Navigation Surveillance System**

5386. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a comprehensive plan for providing satellite based communication and navigation surveillance system for better management of air traffic;

(b) if so, the number of airports where these systems are being installed;

(c) whether Hyderabad airport has also been identified for installing these systems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the major airports in India are covered under this plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Action has been initiated for procurement of Very Small Aperture Terminal (V-SAT) for providing Dedicated Satellite Communication Network at all airports including Hyderabad airport.

#### **Price Stabilization Scheme for Arecanut and Coconut**

5387. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Price Stabilization Scheme declared for some plantation crops like Rubber, Tea and Coffee is likely to be extended to agricultural produces like Arecanut and Coconut;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the features of the scheme; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to give better price of Arecanut and Coconut to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) To stabilize prices of arecanut, a horticultural product and localised in nature, the Government has covered it under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), while copra/processed coconut being an oilseed of tree origin is covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme.

(c) The Market Intervention Scheme is implemented for a given period where a fixed quantity of a commodity under conditions of glut is purchased at a pre-determined price based on the cost of production and market prices. Losses, if any, are shared equally between the Central and the State Government MSP on the other hand helps to stabilize prices by undertaking price support operations through central designated agency in the event of market prices falling below the MSP level.

(d) The Government of India has implemented MIS for procurement of arecanut in Karnataka and Andaman and Nicobar Islands during 2002-2003. A proposal of the Government of Kerala was also received during 2002-03. The State Government has been requested to furnish additional information. A proposal from A & N Administration has also been received for implementing MIS for arecanut during 2003-2004 which is under consideration. For copra the Government fixes MSP on an annual basis.

#### **Setting up of a Task Force on Oilseeds**

5388. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major recommendations made by the Task Force on oilseeds;

(b) whether the recommendations of his Inter-Ministerial Task Force has since been discussed;

(c) if so, whether any consensus has been arrived; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No Task Force on Oilseeds has been set up.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **New Services by IA**

5389. SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new air services introduced by Indian Airlines during the last three years;

(b) the criteria fixed for starting new air services; and

(c) the details of loss making routes of Indian Airlines as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Details of the new services introduced by Indian Airlines/ Alliance Air during the last three years is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) Indian Airlines considers introduction of services on new routes after taking into account need for connectivity, availability of aircraft, commercial viability & operational feasibility of its aircraft fleet.

(c) A statement is enclosed as statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

*New Sectors Introduced on Domestic/International Network during last three years which are presently operational*

Domestic Network		International Network	
Sector	Date of introduction	Sector	Date of introduction
1	2	3	4
Lucknow-Ranchi	4.1.2002	Chennai-Muscat	29.10.2000
Silchar-Guwahati	21.1.2002	Delhi-Singapore	25.3.2001
Mumbai-Jaipur (Non-stop)	12.2.2002	Hyderabad-Dubai	8.6.2001
Mumbai-Pune	31.3.2002	Hyderabad-Bangkok	28.10.2001
Patna-Bagdogra	25.4.2002	Trivandrum-Sharjah	12.1.2002
Patna-Guwahati	25.4.2002	Jaipur-Dubai	12.2.2002
Guwahati-Lilabari	9.10.2002	Delhi-Dubai	12.2.2002

1	2	3	4
Mumbai-Chandigarh	27.10.2002	Calicut-Muscat**	14.2.2002
Kolkata-Gaya	18.12.2002	Calicut-Dubai**	16.2.2002
Guwahati-Dimapur	2.1.2003	Cochin-Doha/Bahrain*	31.3.2002
Guwahati-Aizwal	5.4.2003	Chennai-Dubai	31.3.2002
Kolkata-Shillong	7.4.2003	Gaya-Bangkok	18.12.2002
Agartala-Silchar	15.4.2003		

\*\*Restructuring of IC/AI JV flights

\*Cochin-Doha link reintroduced after withdrawal

### **Statement-II**

*Services Incurred Cash Losses (Apr.-Sep. 2002):  
Indian Airlines & Alliance Air Flights*

S.No.	Sector
1	2
<b>Domestic</b>	
1.	Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Mumbai
2.	Mumbai-Chennai
3.	Mumbai-Jaipur
4.	Mumbai-Kolkata
5.	Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Ranchi-Kolkata
6.	Kolkata-Mumbai
7.	Mumbai-Rajkot-Vadodara-Mumbai
8.	Bangalore-Goa-Pune-Bangalore
9.	Mumbai-Hyderabad
10.	Kolkata-Guwahati
11.	Mumbai-Ahmedabad
12.	Goa-Mumbai
13.	Mumbai-Jamnagar-Bhuj-Mumbai
14.	Mumbai-Mangalore
15.	Chennai-Bangalore
16.	Mumbai-Ahmedabad
17.	Bangalore-Cochin

1	2
18.	Mumbai-Bhavnagar
19.	Mumbai-Hyderabad
20.	Delhi-Leh
21.	Delhi-Patna-Bagdogra-Guwahati
22.	Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar
23.	Delhi-Ahmedabad
24.	Mumbai-Indore-Bhopal-Delhi
25.	Delhi-Agra-Khajuraho-Varanasi
26.	Delhi-Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Aurangabad
27.	Chennai-Trivandrum
28.	Bangalore-Trivandrum
29.	Delhi-Chennai
30.	Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar-Delhi
31.	Chennai-Tirupathy-Hyderabad
32.	Chennai-Bangalore
33.	Mumbai-Bangalore-Ahmedabad
34.	Delhi-Mumbai
35.	Hyderabad-Mumbai
36.	Silchar-Guwahati
37.	Kolkata-Jaipur-Ahmedabad-Kolkata
38.	Delhi-Mumbai-Trivandrum
39.	Mumbai-Puttaparthi

1	2
40.	Kolkata-Bhubaneshwar
41.	Mumbai-Nagpur
42.	Kolkata-Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Kolkata
43.	Leh-Jammu
44.	Kolkata-Silchar-Imphal
45.	Kolkata-Silchar
46.	Kolkata-Tezpur-Dimapur-Kolkata
47.	Kolkata-Agartala
48.	Leh-Srinagar
49.	Leh-Chandigarh
50.	Delhi-Mumbai-Goa
51.	Bangalore-Delhi
52.	Kolkata-Aizwal-Imphal
53.	Kolkata-Agartala
54.	Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar
55.	Kolkata-Agartala
56.	Kolkata-Jorhat-Dimapur-Kolkata

**International**

1. Delhi-Kathmandu
2. Kolkata-Kathmandu
3. Kolkata-Dacca

*[English]***Diversion of Forest Land in Gir Forest**

5390. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to protect the forest land in Gujarat particularly in Gir Forest;

(b) whether the loss of wildlife have been reported due to the diversion of forest land; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH

JUDEV): (a) According to the information received from the State Government, following steps have been taken to protect the forest land in Gujarat including Gir Forests:

1. Forests have been notified as Sanctuaries/ National Parks, Reserved Forests and other categories.
2. Certain forests in Gir have been given more attention by declaring them as National Park and Sanctuary. The area is demarcated and adequate protection measures like stone wall fencing, have been taken up to protect the area against the encroachment.
3. Patrolling and effective monitoring by the field staff.
4. Enforcement of provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(b) According to the report of the State Government, the loss of wildlife has not taken place due to any incidence of diversion of forest land, as no diversion of land having negative impact, is allowed in Gir Protected Area.

(c) Does not arise.

**Resource Inventory for IMP-I**

5391. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Centre for integrated pest management, a unit of ICAR, brought out a Resource Inventory for IPM-I;

(b) if so, whether many of these products can easily be exported to earn foreign exchange and support R & D also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the environment friendly products have potential for export to different countries where similar pests occur. It can earn foreign exchange and also support R & D.

(c) Appropriate technology has already been evolved for mass multiplication and field release of the natural enemies of pests (statement), which can earn foreign exchange from export to other countries where similar

pests occur. It can support R & D activities within the country as well as other countries through collaboration or supply of nucleus cultures for further improvement in respect of various pests, crops, situations and needs.

Many of the technologies are used by commercial insectaries in production of quality bio-agents/bio-pesticides.

### **Statement**

#### **Parasitoids**

Aphytis proclia  
 Bracon brevicornis  
 Brachymeria niphantidis  
 B. nosatoi  
 Bracon hebetor  
 Chelonus blackburni  
 Capidosoma kochleri  
 C. flavipes (Sugarcane strain)  
 C. flavipes (Maize strain)  
 Elasmus niphantidis  
 Goniozus niphantidis  
 Leptomastrix dactylopii  
 Stenobothrus inferens  
 Trichogramma spp.  
 Telenomus emus

#### **Predators**

Brumoides suturalis  
 Chilochorus bijugus  
 Chrysoperla carnea  
 Cryptolaemus montrouzieri  
 Coccinella sp.  
 Chilocorusnigritus  
 Epiricania melenoleuca  
 Mallada sp. (astur)  
 Mallada boninensis  
 Menochilus sexmaculatus  
 Pharoecynmus horni  
 Scymnus sp.  
 Scymnus Coccivora

#### **Insect pathogens**

Formulations of Bacillus thuringiensis  
 HaNPV  
 S/NPV  
 GV of chilo infuscatellus  
 GV of Plutella xylostella  
 Baculovirus oryctes  
 Verticillium lecanii  
 Beauveria bassiana  
 Metarhizium anisopliae  
 Nomuraea rileyi

#### **Antagonists**

Trichoderma spp.  
 Pseudomonas fluorescence

#### **Weed insects**

Cryptobagous salviniae  
 Neochetina bruchi  
 Neochetina eichhorniae  
 Zygogramma bicolorata

[Translation]

#### **Retiring Room at Airports**

5392. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether retiring room facility is not available at Patna, Gaya and Ranchi Airports; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide this facility at the above said airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Retiring room facility is available at Patna and Ranchi airports.

(b) At Gaya airport, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has proposal to provide retiring room facility in the new Terminal Building under construction.

[English]

#### **Harassment to Foreign Tourists**

5393. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of violence and frauds against foreign tourists are increasing in the country for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to enact separate legislations to overcome the situation; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Few cases of fraud against foreign tourists have been reported during the last three years. State-wise complaints received in this regard and given here under:

Name of the State	No. of Complaints received
Himachal Pradesh	03
Maharashtra	70
Rajasthan	05
Tamil Nadu	11
Uttar Pradesh	04
Uttaranchal	01
West Bengal	09
Delhi	11

(c) and (d) Safety and security of the tourist is the primary responsibility of the State Government concerned. Department of Tourism, Government of India, has advised State Government to set up separate Tourist Police for this purpose. Some States like Goa, Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have set up Tourist Police in their States.

[Translation]

#### Support Price of Pulses

5394. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to determine the support price of pulses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the support price of different pulses prevailing at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government already fixes each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Arhar (Tur), Moong, Urad, Masur (Lentil) and Gram.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Minimum Support Prices fixed for different pulses for the crop year 2002-03 are as follows:—

Sl.No.	Commodity	(Rs. per quintal) MSP
1.	Arhar (Tur)	1320
2.	Moong	1330
3.	Urad	1330
4.	Masur (Lentil)	1320
5.	Gram	1220

The Government has also announced payment of special drought relief price of Rs. 5 per quintal over and above the MSPs of different pulses stated above.

[English]

#### Advance Purchase Excursion and Fare Scheme

5395. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has further extended Advance Purchase Excursion (APEX) and Fare Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the sectors on which this scheme will be available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The APEX Fare Scheme which was valid upto 31st March, 2003 has been extended upto 31st March, 2004.

(b) The Apex Fare Scheme has been utilized substantially and is adding to its passenger carriage.



(c) The APEX fares are currently applicable only on 55 domestic sectors operated by Indian Airlines. The list of sectors is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Sector
1	2
1.	Mumbai-Kolkata
2.	Mumbai-Ahmedabad
3.	Mumbai-Bangalore
4.	Mumbai-Bhopal
5.	Mumbai-Calicut
6.	Mumbai-Chennai
7.	Mumbai-Cochin
8.	Mumbai-Coimbatore
9.	Mumbai-Delhi
10.	Mumbai-Hyderabad
11.	Mumbai-Indore
12.	Mumbai-Jaipur
13.	Mumbai-Jodhpur
14.	Mumbai-Lucknow
15.	Mumbai-Mangalore
16.	Mumbai-Nagpur
17.	Mumbai-Patna
18.	Mumbai-Pune
19.	Mumbai-Trivandrum
20.	Mumbai-Udaipur
21.	Mumbai-Aurangabad
22.	Delhi-Ahmedabad
23.	Delhi-Aurangabad
24.	Delhi-Bangalore
25.	Delhi-Bhopal
26.	Delhi-Calicut
27.	Delhi-Chennai
28.	Delhi-Cochin

1	2
29.	Delhi-Coimbatore
30.	Delhi-Guwahati
31.	Delhi-Hyderabad
32.	Delhi-Indore
33.	Delhi-Jammu
34.	Delhi-Kolkata
35.	Delhi-Lucknow
36.	Delhi-Patna
37.	Delhi-Pune
38.	Delhi-Trivandrum
39.	Delhi-Udaipur
40.	Delhi-Vadodara
41.	Delhi-Varanasi
42.	Delhi-Bagdogra
43.	Kolkata-Bagdogra
44.	Kolkata-Bangalore
45.	Kolkata-Guwahati
46.	Kolkata-Hyderabad
47.	Chennai-Calicut
48.	Chennai-Cochin
49.	Chennai-Coimbatore
50.	Chennai-Hyderabad
51.	Chennai-Kolkata
52.	Chennai-Madurai
53.	Chennai-Trivandrum
54.	Hyderabad-Ahmedabad
55.	Bangalore-Ahmedabad

[*Translation*]

**Shortage of Aviation Capacity**

5396. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding shortage of aviation capacity and inadequate traffic demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether airlines have been incurring huge losses in absence of the said survey; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Although no such survey has been conducted by the Government in the recent past, the capacity and demand scenario in the aviation sector is being constantly monitored by the Government. As far as international sector is concerned, bilateral discussions are held with various countries from time to time to review the growth in traffic and capacity. The problem of seasonal demand surges is also addressed through adoption of open sky policy during the peak winter tourist season. As regards domestic sector, a committee was constituted in April 2001 under the Chairmanship of DGCA to assess the potential of growth in the domestic sector for the next five years. The Committee concluded that although annual growth rate of domestic traffic may fluctuate, it is more likely to grow at an average rate of 5% during the period 2001 to 2005 and can go up to 7% provided certain other factors are favourable. It was decided to take into

consideration the report while considering fresh cases for grant of NOC for air transport services and import of aircraft on case-to-case basis subject to fulfilment of other requirements/parameters.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of the above.

[English]

#### Protection of Monuments in Tamil Nadu

5397. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated any funds or formulated any special scheme to protect the historical monuments in Tamil Nadu particularly the temples at Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Daraswaram and Kailashnath temple, Kanchipuram; and

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise alongwith the distribution of the amount, monument-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Government have allocated funds and drawn perspective plan for 28 monuments in Tamil Nadu including Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Darasuram and Kailashnath temple, Kanchipuram and requisite details of expenditure for the three years and details of allocation for 2003-2004 are given in statement-I and II respectively.

#### Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the Monument	Location	District	Expenditure		
				2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bridheswara temple	G.K.C. Pura	Thanjavur	—	—	—
2.	Mahadwara of Airavatheswara temple	Darasuram	Thanjavur	4.26	0.89	—
3.	Kailasanatha temple	Kanchipuram	Kanchipuram	4.77	4.90	7.84
4.	Bridheswara temple	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	4.34	4.86	6.23
5.	Airavatheswara temple	Darasuram	Thanjavur	2.12	—	14.59
6.	Sivaganga little fort	Thanjavur	Thanjavur	—	—	9.34
7.	Venkatesa Perumal temple	Tirumukkudl	Kanchipuram	3.91	—	—
8.						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Dutch fort and cemetery	Sadras	Kanchipuram	1.67	4.62	—
10.	Group of Monuments	Mamallapuram	Kanchipuram	6.357	25.93	41.97
11.	Rock-cut Tiger headed Cave	Salavankuppam	Kanchipuram	2.90	2.51	—
12.	Megalithic Site and Um burials	Sanur	Kanchipuram	2.25	1.49	—
13.	Brahmaputiswara temple	Brahmadesam	Villupuram	4.95	4.66	—
14.	Alagiya Narasimhaswamy temple	Ennayiram	Villupuram	—	—	22.24
15.	Fort Complex & temples	Gingee	Villupuram	4.86	—	7.52
16.	Apathsagayeswara temple	Sendamangalam	-do-	—	4.22	—
17.	Siva temple	Tirunayam	Pudukkottai	—	0.15	—
18.	Siva temple	Ammankurichi	Pudukkottai	—	5.00	—
19.	Pushpavaneswara temple	Puvalalkudi	Pudukkottai	4.93	0.46	—
20.	Siva temple	Kunnandarkoil	Pudukkottai	1.35	—	—
21.	Siva temple	Visalur	Pudukkottai	2.72	—	8.66
22.	Sikkanath aswamy temple	Kudukmiyanmalai	Pudukkottai	—	0.27	—
23.	Jaina Cave temple	Sittannavasal	Pudukkottai	1.90	0.76	—
24.	Fort	Vellore	Vellore	9.20	4.62	20.00
25.	Sri Jalakanteswara temple	Vellore	Vellore	4.76	3.51	—
26.	Sri Valeesvara Temple	Tiruvallisvaram	Tirunelveli	3.66	3.53	0.24
27.	Ancient Site	Kunathur	-do-	4.99	0.39	1.07
28.	Bhakthavatsala temple	Siradevi	-do-	0.29	11.23	0.25
29.	Rock-cut temple	Tirumalapuram	Tirunelveli	0.04	0.08	0.04
30.	Bhagavati temple	Chitral	Kanyakumari	7.81	4.66	0.83
31.	Fort at Vattakottai	Vattakottai	Kanyakumari	4.15	5.15	0.22
32.	Sri Parthasarathi and Krishna temple	Parthivapuram	Kanyakumari	5.21	4.05	0.61
33.	Group of Sculpture Dolmes	Kottagiri	Niligiris	—	0.01	—
34.	Clive's Building	Chennai	Chennai	—	4.02	1.34
35.	Block No. XXXVI 2 (Fort Museum)	Chennai	Chennai	3.06	—	—
36.	Megalithic Site	Neyvali	Tiruvallur	0.82	3.52	—
37.	Hill fort & temple (Vanradarajaperumal temple)	Chinnakvandanur	Salem	4.74	4.95	9.81

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
38.	Ranganathaswamy temple, Namakkal	Namakkal	Salem	4.49	—	—
39.	Korangunathaswara temple	Srinivasanallur	Salem	2.66	—	—
40.	Sir Nithiswaraswamy temple	Srimushnam	Cuddalore	2.08	—	—
Tamil Nadu				111.261	113.57	152.60

**Statement-II**

S. No.	Name of the Monument/Location	Tentative Provision for 2003-2004 (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Clive Building, Chennai	10.00
2.	Kailsanatha Temple, Kanchipuram	10.00
3.	Sikkhanathaswamy Temple, Kudumianmalai	20.00
4.	Group of Monuments on the Hillock, Mamallapuram	20.00
5.	Fort & Temples on the Hill, Chinnakavandanur	10.00
6.	Brihadisvara Temple, Tanjavur	10.00
7.	Brihadisvara Temple, Gangaikonda Cholapuram	20.00
8.	Aiavateswara Temple, Darasuram	20.00
9.	Siva Temple, Ammankurichi	10.00
10.	Fort & Rampart Wall, Vellore	20.00
11.	Apathsahayeswara Temple, Sendamangalam	15.00
12.	Ekambareswara Temple, Settur	10.00
13.	Fort, Tirumayam	15.00
14.	Nursing Sister's hous, Chennai	15.00
15.	Fort on Rock (Dindigul Fort), Pallavapatti	10.00
16.	Nityakalayanaswamy Temple, Tiruvidanthai	5.00
17.	Munkudummisvara Temple, P.V. Kalathur	10.00
18.	Pancha Pandava Beds. Jain statue and Brahmi & Vtteluttu inscriptions on the Pancha Pandavas, Keelaiyur	5.00
19.	Group of Monuments, Vallimali	8.00
20.	Sri Bhaktavaatsala temple Cheranmahadevi	10.00
21.	Valisvara Temple Tiruvalesvaram	10.00
Total		263.00

1	2	3
	<b>JAIN CIVIL DEPOSIT WORKS</b>	
1.	Jain Temple, Thirumalai	0.67
2.	Jain Bas Relief and Bhagavati Temple, Thimchanathumalai	15.94
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16.61</b>

**Development of Cashewnut Production****Statement I**

5398. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

*Assistance provided Under Cashew Scheme during the Ninth Plan (1997-2000)*

(a) the details of schemes/programmes formulated and implemented by the Government for the development of Cashewnut production during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the assistance provided by the Government for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) the achievements made during the above period; and

(d) the further programme of the Government to boost the production of Cashewnut especially in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):  
(a) A centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Development Programme of Cashew and Cocoa was implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan till September 2000. With effect from October 2000, the scheme was subsumed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans.

(b) The State-wise details of assistance provided under the cashew scheme during the Ninth Plan is given in the Statement-I.

(c) The details of achievements made is given in the Statement-II.

(d) The Macro Management Scheme is being continued during the Tenth Five Year Plan under which the State Governments can prioritize their activities as per the felt needs and requirement. The Government of Tamil Nadu have earmarked an amount of Rs. 2.34 crores for development of cashew during 2002-03.

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	Assistance provided
1.	Kerala	295.210
2.	Karnataka	336.150
3.	Goa	332.300
4.	Maharashtra	1775.940
5.	Andhra Pradesh	286.904
6.	Tamil Nadu	413.510
7.	Orissa	841.980**
8.	Madhya Pradesh	79.400
9.	Chhattisgarh	Nil
10.	West Bengal	2.000
11.	Assam	1.600
12.	Tripura	23.150
13.	Manipur	36.350
14.	Meghalaya	15.180
15.	Nagaland	13.300
16.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.70
17.	Pondicherry	8.450
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4462.594</b>

\*\*Release made upto 2000-01

**Statement II***Achievements Made Under Cashew Scheme during the Ninth Plan.*

Sl No.	State	Plantation Development & Maintenance (Ha)	Plant Protection Measures (Ha)	Regional nurseries (Nurseries) (Nos.)	Demonstration plots (Nos.)	Farmers Training (No. of farmers)
1.	Kerala	3573	7623	Nil	267	3530
2.	Karnataka	7113	7631	1	373	5121
3.	Goa	6777	7559	2 (Expansion)	No Programme	3660
4.	Maharashtra	37926	61647	14	47	2205
5.	Andhra Pradesh	9144	8376	1	40	3260
6.	Tamil Nadu	8847	8376	2	288	2265
7.	Orissa	18970	10322	8	82	3290
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1774	1307	Nil	—	34
9.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	1	—	Not Implemented
10.	West Bengal	545	No Programme	Nil	—	400
11.	Assam	—	No Programme	1	—	304
12.	Tripura	50	No Programme	1	+	500
13.	Manipur	450	325	Nil	—	300
14.	Meghalaya	250	No Programme	1	—	Not Implemented
15.	Nagaland	200	No Programme	1	—	504
16.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	No Programme	Nil	—	No Programme
17.	Pondicherry	—	No Programme	Nil	—	No Programme

**Import of Exotic Birds**

5399. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Ministry of Environment and Forests have rejected a proposal for increasing the number of species of captive-bred exotic birds for export;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of Indian birds were wrongly declared as exotic;

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to resolve the anomaly; and

(e) the facts responsible for the drastic curtailment of import of exotic birds by U.S. and U.K.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) At present the trade in captive bred exotic species of birds is regulated as per the decision of the Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wild Life, the highest advisory body concerning wild life conservation and control of poaching and trade. Only six species of captive bred exotic birds can be exported under the EXIM Policy. The proposal of All India Bird Breeders Association and others requesting for permission to export all species of captive bred exotic birds was carefully considered by the Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wild Life in its meeting held in February, 2003. The members were unanimous in their opinion that there should be no increase in the number of species of captive bred exotic birds as many cases have come to the notice of the Government wherein exporters tried to export Indian species disguised as exotics.

(d) As decided by the Standing Committee of the Indian Board for Wild Life, only six species of captive bred exotic birds will be permitted. Stringent action will be taken against the offenders including forfeiture of property under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(e) As reported by the Environmental Investigating Agency, UK, the United States of America enacted the Exotic Wild Bird Conservation Act in 1992 prohibiting the import of many bird species in the interest of conservation. Similarly the United Kingdom also declined the imports due to large scale deaths of birds during transit.

*[Translation]*

#### **War Risk Insurance**

5400. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines held talks with international insurance companies regarding their demand of huge war risk insurance premium from all the airlines operating via Kuwait;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith details of insurance companies; and

(c) the amount being spent by the domestic airlines of the country on insurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) After the outbreak of Iraq war in March, 2003, Air India and Indian Airlines had received notice from their insurers that the International insurance Under-writers had decided to levy additional insurance premium towards hull war risk to the Airlines operating to Kuwait. After successful negotiation with the insurers, the levy of the additional insurance premium for these flights was waived. As such, there is no additional outgo of premium on this account.

(c) The amount on aviation insurance for the renewal year 2002-03 (from 1.10.2002 to 30.9.2003) estimated by Indian Airlines is about USD 35.4 million equivalent to Rs. 182.13 crores (including service tax).

*[English]*

#### **Qutub Minar In Darkness**

5401. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Qutub Minar in Delhi remained without electricity for a few months in the recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons for not supplying electricity to this historical monuments;

(c) when was the electricity restored; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that such a situation does not arise in future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation Ltd. who look after the illumination of Qutub Minar have informed that illumination casts a financial burden on Delhi Tourism and as no provision is made in the plan budget of Government of Delhi, illumination is suspended.

(c) Electricity was restored temporarily during the Qutub festival in September, 2002.

(d) Examination of proposals to allow sponsors to finance the cost of electricity and annual maintenance charges is underway.

#### **Operation of Foreign Airlines on International Routes**

5402. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign airlines operating on international routes to and from different airports in India;

(b) whether some of these foreign airlines have been allowed to operate on some additional routes in the country from January 2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) A total of 51 foreign airlines are operating 543 services per week to India deploying a total of 125,440 seats in each direction each week. Foreign airlines are presently operating to 13 airports in India, i.e. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Hyderabad, Cochin, Trivandrum, Trichy, Bangalore, Varanasi, Patna and Gaya.

(b) and (c) Requests of other countries for operation of their airlines to different airports are examined as part of an ongoing process, depending upon traffic demand etc., and designated airlines of following countries have been granted access to various airports in India since January, 2002:-

Country		Airport
Iran	—	Delhi
Srilanka	—	Bangalore, Gaya, Cochin
Singapore	—	Hyderabad
Qatar	—	Hyderabad, Cochin
Kenya	—	Delhi
Saudi Arabia	—	Cochin
Gulf Air	—	Cochin

### Inter-Linking of Rivers

5403. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force set up by the Government on interlinking of rivers has decided to seek the opinion of specialised institutions and experts on the project;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) the details of specialised institutions which have since provided technical or expert opinion to the task force; and

(d) the further action proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Task Force on interlinking of rivers has identified some institutions/experts as resource institutions/persons to prepare Strategy Papers on specific themes in its second meeting held on 27th March, 2003. A Statement is enclosed.

(c) The Task Force has not received any opinion from the said Institution/Expert.

(d) Does not arise.

### Statement

Sl. No.	Theme/Topic	Expert/Institution
1	2	3
1.	Wild life/Environment	Prof. Samar Singh, Dr. Dilip Biswas Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) Forest Research Institute (FRI) Wildlife Institute Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM)
2.	R&R and Social Issues	Mr. Babbar Tata Institute of Social Studies (TISS)



1	2	3
3.	Finance, Economics	National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)
4.	International Dimensions	Prof. B.G. Verghese, (Centre for Policy Research (CPR) & Former Ambassador Dasgupta.
5.	Institutional Arrangements	Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad
6.	Engineering, Technology, Construction Management, Equipment, R&D	Institution of Engineers, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)
7.	IT and Communications	National Informatics Centre (NIC), Telecom Commission, Telecommunication Consultant India Ltd. (TCIL).

### Himalayan Tahrs

5404. SHRI Y.V. RAO:  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Himalayan Tahrs" an endangered specie in the Western Himalayas are on the verge of extinction;

(b) if so, whether some of these animals which were transported to South Africa, have bred and proliferated there and being exotic species the South African authorities have decided to exterminate them;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to save this endangered specie from extermination and killing; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government indicating the plan of action for transporting these animals back to Indian habitat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The Himalayan Tahr is an endangered species in India. It is listed in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 and is thereby provided highest degree of protection under law to prevent its extinction. The species is surviving in its natural habitat.

(b) to (d) Himalayan Tahr is not indigenous to South Africa. Being exotic species to South Africa, the local authorities decided to cull (killing for conservation management purpose) the population of this species. The

Government of India had requested for firm commitment from the Government of South Africa to allow the capture of the Himalayan Tahr and provide logistic and technical support in capturing these animals. However, the same has not been received till date.

[Translation]

### Review of National Tourism Action Plan

5405. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed National Tourism Action Plan announced in May 1992 to identify the inadequacies in realising the target fixed in tourism sector and to attract tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to invite investment from private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The National Tourism Policy 2002 has been formulated to meet the present requirements of the tourism sector in the country and to guide the national efforts for development of tourism in the future beyond the framework of National Tourism action Plan announced in 1992.

(b) Broadly this Policy attempts to achieve the following objectives:-

- Position tourism as a major engine of economic growth;

- harness the direct and multiplier effects of tourism for employment generation and economic development;
- focus on domestic tourism as a major driver of tourism growth;
- position India as a global brand;
- create and develop integrated tourism circuits based on India's unique civilization, heritage, and culture;
- ensure that the tourist to India gets physically invigorated, mentally rejuvenated, culturally enriched-spiritually elevated and "feel India from within";

(c) and (d) This policy acknowledges critical role of private sector with Government working as a facilitator and catalyst.

*[English]*

**MOU for Implementation of Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Initiatives**

5406. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of India and Canada have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a project to support implementation of environmentally and socially sustainable initiatives in the Indian Industries; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Government of India and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Government of Canada on 13th March, 2003 for the Environmental Management Project, Phase-II of Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). Government of Canada will contribute Can \$9 million to support this 5 year project to be implemented by the CII. The purpose of the Project is to enhance the environmentally and socially sustainable initiatives in Indian industry and the Central/State Governments. The Project is expected to strengthen the capacity of CII to provide guidance to Indian industry on targeted environmental and social issues, increase capacity of industry to incorporate

environmental and social issues in doing business and enhance knowledge of State and Central Governments and would assist in the development and implementation of policy in key areas of environmental and social practices.

**Water Users Associations**

5407. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:  
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the State Governments to form Water Users Associations;

(b) if so, the States which have not yet formed such associations in their States; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage formation of water users associations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The States which have not yet formed Water Users' Associations are Jharkhand, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura, and Uttranchal.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to encourage the formation of Water Users Association are (i) providing one time functional grant @ of Rs. 500/- per ha. to registered Water Users Associations to be shared by Centre, State and farmers in the ratio of 225:225:50 respectively, (ii) sponsoring National, State and project-level conferences and training programmes on Participatory Irrigation Management and (iii) providing States with Model Act and guidelines for enactment of PIM Acts, amendment to Irrigation Acts.

Release of Central Assistance for core activities is proposed to be linked with the formation of Water Users' Associations and Distributary Committees under the proposed 'Restructured Command Area Development and Water Management Programme'.

*[Translation]*

**Airlink for Bhopal and Indore**

5408. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of industrial houses and air passengers have demanded for linking the Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal and the commercial city Indore with Raipur, Jaipur, Udaipur and Ahmedabad through air routes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There have been some requests for connecting cities of Madhya Pradesh with destinations like Raipur, Jaipur, Udaipur and Ahmedabad etc. by air services.

The aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines are fully committed in providing services in the existing schedule. Indian Airlines has no plans to link Bhopal and Indore with Raipur, Jaipur, Udaipur and Ahmedabad.

However, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of the different regions of the country including north-east region. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

[English]

#### **Pending Tourism Projects**

5409. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tourism projects of certain States including Gujarat are pending with the Government for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) by when these projects are likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) No tourism proposal of Gujarat is pending with this Ministry for environmental clearance. However one tourism proposal from Andhra Pradesh and three proposals from Goa have been received recently. Decision on project proposal is normally taken within 90 days of receipt of complete information.

[Translation]

#### **Supply of Water to Bihar**

5410. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts of South Bihar where water was proposed to be provided through inter-State irrigation projects;

(b) the quantum of water supplied to the districts during the last five years; and

(c) the quantum of water utilised and goes waste out of the water made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Vacant Posts Under OBC Category**

5411. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under category A, B, C and D in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry at present, category-wise;

(b) the percentage of reservation provided to the OBCs in the Union Government Services;

(c) whether the reservation quota of OBCs has been completely filled up in the departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which reservation quota for the said classes is likely to be filled up;

(f) whether there is a provision of reservation for the OBCs at the time of their promotion also;

(g) if so, whether the posts reserved for OBCs are filled up by general category candidates in case the candidate belonging to OBC are not available; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Flights from Delhi**

5412. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Airlines flights operating from Delhi to other metros;

(b) the number of flights from Delhi to other metros being operated by other airlines;

(c) the number of flights out of these in which airbus are being used;

(d) the occupancy of J class (executive class) and Y class (economy Class) in each of these flights during each of the days of the months of January 2003;

(e) whether the Government are considering to operate daily Airbus Service from Delhi to Bhubaneswar;

(f) if so, by when; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The number of flights operated by Indian Airlines (including Alliance Air), Jet Airways and Air Sahara from Delhi to the metros (i.e. Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai) are 24, 22 and 10 respectively. out of these, 23 flights are operated by Airbus aircraft.

(d) The information is being collected.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The airbus A-320 aircraft available in the fleet of Indian Airlines are fully committed in the operation of services in the existing schedule. Indian Airlines as such has no plans to increase the airbus service from Delhi to Bhubaneshwar from the present three per week to daily.

#### **Damage to Crops due to Drought**

5413. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural and horticultural crops have been severally affected due to prevailing drought conditions in the entire Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the districts affected as result thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) In the Memorandum for Central assistance submitted by the Government of Gujarat in the wake of current drought, State Government indicated that all the major crops were affected by drought. According to State Government 79.95 lakh ha. against normal area of 81.22 lakh ha. was sown during kharif and 15.33 lakh ha. against normal area of 17.37 lakh ha. was sown in Rabi. The State Government had declared 13 districts in the State, viz. Ahmedabad, Wosn in Rabi. Anand, Banaskantha, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kachchh, Kheda, Panchmahal., Patan, Porbandar, Rajkot, Sabarkantha and Surendranagar as drought affected. Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2002-03 amounting to Rs. 133.46 crores was released to the State for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought.

[Translation]

#### **Major and Medium Irrigation Projects of Bihar**

5414. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major and medium irrigation projects started in Bihar during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of outlay under these projects;

(c) whether the projects have been completed within the stipulated time;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the present status of the projects; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to complete the projects during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) One Major Irrigation Project namely

Punpun Barrage Scheme with estimated cost of Rs. 102.26 crore and ultimate irrigation potential of 13.90 th. ha. and one Medium Irrigation Project namely Munhara Barrage with estimated cost of Rs. 11.18 crore and ultimate irrigation potential of 2.92 th.ha. in Bihar were started during IX Five Year Plan.

(b) For Punpun Barrage Scheme an outlay of Rs. 80.00 crore has been provided for X Plan period and an outlay of Rs. 10.00 crore was provided for 2002-2003. An outlay of Rs. 10 crore has been provided for X Plan period and Rs. 5.00 crore was provided for 2002-2003 for Munhara barrage.

(c) Punpun Barrage Scheme is an ongoing project in X Plan and targeted to be completed beyond X Plan. Munhara Barrage is targeted for completion by 2003-04.

(d) and (e) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are planned, investigated, implemented and funded by the State Governments as per their own priorities and completion of the project depends upon the priority attached to it by the concerned State Government.

[English]

#### **Loss due to Rationalisation of Routes**

5415. SHRI AMBAREESHA:  
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to route rationalisation of Indian Airlines and Air India will incur loss but in the process benefit the private and foreign airlines;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safe guard the interests of IA and AI;

(c) the total income earned by AI due to route actuation during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the route that were auctioned by AI during the last three years, year-wise, route-wise;

(e) the airlines which have got these routes from AI;

(f) whether Indian Airlines had requested for operating on these routes;

(g) if so, whether the Union Government rejected this request; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The directive of the Government issued on 3rd January, 2003 allocating routes to Air India and Indian Airlines for operations to South-East Asia and Gulf has been kept in abeyance.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (h) There is no such system of auctioning of routes. However, India's Air Services Agreements with some countries provide for commercial agreement with designated Indian carriers in case of imbalance in operations. Both Air India and Indian Airlines have been designated to enter into such commercial agreements on case to case basis.

#### **Release of Water from Kabini Reservoir**

5416. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total cusec of water released from Kabini reservoir since the beginning of the current year to Mettur reservoir; and

(b) the other rivers and reservoirs of Karnataka from which has been released to Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Outflows from Kabini and Krishnarajsagar Reservoir of Karnataka reach Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu as inflow. However, entire outflows from these reservoirs may not reach Mettur reservoir on account of enroute abstractions through anicut channels and losses in the river reach. Monthly outflows in Thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) from Krishnarajsagar (KRS) and Kabini reservoirs from June to March during current water year 2002-2003 is given below. In addition, the water from the lower catchment of 29456 square km. below Kabini and Krishnarajsagar upto Mettur dam also reaches as inflow in Mettur dam in Tamil Nadu.

Month	Outflows (TMC)	
	Krishnarajsagar	Kabini
1	2	3
June, 2002	0.715	1.290
July, 2002	1.673	9.346
August, 2002	2.608	24.182
September, 2002	2.392	8.658

1	2	3
October, 2002	6.778	0.000
November, 2002	9.401	0.000
December, 2002	2.531	0.000
January, 2003	1.909	2.005
February, 2003	1.815	2.495
March, 2003	1.025	0.975
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.847</b>	<b>48.951</b>

#### **Decline in Export of Coir**

5417. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of coir and coir products have shown decrease in quantity and value during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the export of coir and coir products during each of the last three years in quantity and value; and

(c) the steps taken to boost the exports of coir and coir products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In fact there has been a steady increase in export of coir and coir products both in quantity and value. Details showing exports of coir and coir products during each of the last three years in quantity and value are as follows:

Year	Quantity (M.T.)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
2000-01	67493.08	31366.22
2001-02	71334.81	32058.35
2002-03	82634.00	34512.75

(c) In order to boost export of coir and coir products, the Coir Board has initiated several steps. Some of these are participation in exhibitions/catalogue shows, product promotion programmes abroad assistance to exporters for acquiring ISO 9000 certification etc. A new Scheme "External Market Development Assistance" has also been introduced effective from 2000-2001 for encouraging small exporters in the coir sector.

#### **Project Tiger**

5418. SHRI KHELAI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have notified the new project tiger proposed for Chhattisgarh which has already been approved on January 23, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

(d) the time by which it is likely to be notified; and

(e) the present status of their elephants rehabilitation schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) In the 37th meeting of the Steering Committee of Project Tiger held on 23rd January 2003, the inclusion of Achanakmar, Udanti, and Sitahadi Wildlife Sanctuaries of Chhattisgarh under the Project Tiger Scheme has been recommended. Action has been taken to obtain the approval of the Cabinet committee on Economic Affairs for inclusion of the above in the project Tiger Scheme.

(e) No funding support has been provided to Chhattisgarh during the last three years for elephant rehabilitation, hence the question of their status does not arise.

#### **Bhilai Steel Plant**

5419. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) has appointed MECON to conduct a feasibility study for forward integration into 8mm to 25mm thickness pipe manufacturing;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed project;

(c) whether any study has been conducted about the opportunities available in the wider pipe market;

(d) if so, its anticipated demand; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken on the reports of the studies conducted in the sphere of the activity of BSP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Bhilai Steel Plant has not appointed MECON to conduct a feasibility study for installation of pipe plant at Bhilai. However, Centre for Engineering & Technology (CET), an in-house consultant of SAIL is at present conducting a feasibility study for the plant, which is yet to be completed.

(b) to (e) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

#### **Infrastructural facilities to Forest Guards**

5420. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to provide infrastructural facilities to the Forest Guards in the country had been under the consideration of the Government for a quite long time; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to give them adequate arms and ammunitions in the naxalite affected forest areas particularly in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) There is no proposal under consideration to specifically provide infrastructural facilities to the Forest Guards. However, financial assistance is being provided to the State Governments under various schemes for strengthening of infrastructure for the field staff which includes the forest guards.

(b) There is no such scheme to provide arms and ammunitions to the forest guards specifically in the naxalite affected forest areas particularly in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. However, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments under various schemes for infrastructure development which also includes arms and ammunitions. These funds are utilised by the State Government according to their priorities.

#### **Fund for Mumbai Airport**

5421. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mumbai Airport Authority has cleared a proposal of Rs. 500 crore in March 2003;

(b) if so, whether the said proposal has been sent to the Ministry after clearance from the Board;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal;

(d) by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue from the said proposal and the period of completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Remote Sensing Application for Crop Forecast**

5422. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently devised remote sensing application for accurate crop forecast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the devise has been developed after a successful pilot project;

(d) if so, whether the project is proposed to be implemented in States including Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government is considering to implement during the Tenth Five Year Plan a project called "Forecasting Agricultural Output using Space, Agro-meteorology and Land-based Observations" (FASAL) as an umbrella project aiming to use diverse remote sensing applications for agriculture with primary focus on crop forecasting. The project is jointly conceived by the Department of Space and the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. The approach integrates inputs from three types of observations viz., remote sensing, weather and field observations and providing complementary and supplementary information, to make forecasts and inferences of desired coverage, accuracy, and timeliness.

Other uses of remote sensing in a agriculture cover land use & wasteland mapping, drought assessment, soil resource surveys, cropping system analysis, Horticulture crops coverage, etc.

(c) The tools of Remote Sensing applications for crop acreage and production assessment of select crops have been developed and validated under the scheme "Crop Acreage and Production Estimations (CAPE)" funded by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and operated by Department of Space.

(d) and (e) The project has considered the importance of various crops in different States including Maharashtra

for the coverage. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*The States which need to be covered for forecasting*

States	No. of Liss III\$ Schemes	1(a)	1(b)	2(a)	2(b)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9(a)	9(b)	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	30	4	2	6	3	9	6	5	4	—	5	2	2	—	—
Assam	14	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	7	—
Bihar	16	8	7	—	—	—	7	6	—	2	9	8	—	8	6
Gujarat	21	13	—	8	5	3	9	—	2	—	6	1	5	5	8
Himachal Pradesh	9	24	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Haryana	9	12	—	9	—	5	—	—	5	—	7	—	—	3	3
Jammu & Kashmir	29	15	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
Karnataka	22	11	4	3	2	7	4	1	7	—	4	4	3	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	46	6	—	2	—	8	3	—	9	—	—	6	—	4	4
Maharashtra	32	10	—	1	1	2	9	4	1	—	2	5	4	—	—
Orissa	19	7	5	—	—	—	—	7	—	4	—	—	6	—	—
Punjab	8	3	—	—	—	—	10	—	3	—	8	—	—	9	2
Rajasthan	37	19	—	7	—	1	1	—	6	—	—	7	—	1	5
Tamil Nadu	16	5	3	4	4	6	—	2	8	—	3	3	1	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	35	1	—	5	—	4	2	3	—	—	1	9	—	2	1
West Bengal	16	2	1	—	—	—	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	7
Others	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total LISS-III</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>197</b>

\*1(a) = Rice (K)

3 = Bajra (K)

7 = Jute

10 = Rapeseed/Mustard

1(b) = Raice®

4 = Maize (K)

8 = Sugarcane (K)

11 = Wheat

2(a) = Jowar (K)

5 = Ragi

9(a) = Groundnut (K)

2(b) = Jowar ®

6 = Cotton

9(b) = Groundnut (R)

(K) = Kharif

® = Rabi

\$LISS: Linear Image Self Scanner.



**Closure of Zoos**

5423. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many zoos in the country have been forced to close down during the last five years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for their closure;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations from the States for financial assistance and allocation of alternative sites for resettlement of zoos; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the last five year-90 zoos which did not conform to the norms and conditions laid down under the 'Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992' were derecognised and closed down. State-wise list of such zoos is enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Twelve zoos which were not viable at their present locations are proposed to be relocated to new sites. The Central Zoo Authority has since provided a total sum of Rs. 785.61 lakhs for development of these zoos.

**Statement***Current Position—Closed Zoos*

S.No.	State	Zoo Name	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Alisagar Deer Park	Alisagar
2.		BHEL Deer Park	Hyderabad
3.		Deer Breeding Farm, Pakhal	Warangal
4.		Deer Park	Kandaleru
5.		Deer Park Research Station, Vempally	Sirpur
6.		Deer Park, Air Force Station, Hakimpet	Secunderabad
7.		Deer Park, Begumpet	Hyderabad
8.		Regional Science Centre	Tirupati
9.		Anarpathi Educational Society	Anarparthi
10.	Assam	Bijni Park Cum Mini Zoo	Guwahati
11.	Bihar	Ajanta Tourist Zoo, Mirshikar Toli,	Patna
12.		Amar Tourist Zoo	Patna
13.		Bajrang Zoo	Durbhanga
14.		Bharat Zoo, Gulzar Bagh	Patna
15.		Diamond Tourist Zoo	Patna
16.		Gemini Tourist Zoo	Patna
17.		Jaiprakash Park	Bodh Gaya

1	2	3	4
18.		New Janta Travelling Zoo, Mirshikar Toli	Patna
19.		New Ramond Tourist	Patna
20.		Ramond Tourist Zoo, Mirshikar Toli	Patna
21.		Sri Pramod (Touring Zoo)	Muzaffarpur
22.		Tourist Janta Zoo	Patna
23.	Chhattisgarh	Bailadia Deer Park	Bastar
24.	Daman & Diu	Deer Park	Daman
25.	Gujarat	Narmada Wildlife Complex	Narmada Nagar
26.	Haryana	Deer Park, NFL	Panipat
27.		Mini Zoo, H.A.P.	Madhuban
28.		Mini Zoo, Abubshahar, Distt. Sirsa	Abubshahar, Distt., Sirsa
29.		Mini Zoo, Bhiwani	Bhiwani
30.		Mini Zoo, Jind	Jind
31.		Mini Zoo, Pinzore	Pinzore
32.	Jharkhand	Chacha Nehru Island	Tailaiya
33.	Karnataka	Children's Park Mini Zoo	Shimoga
34.		Deer Children & Snake Park at Kadri Hill	Mangalore
35.		Deer Park at Jijihal RF	Bellary
36.		Lal Bagh Deer Park	Bangalore
37.		Mini Zoo Maharaja Park	Hassan
38.	Madhya Pradesh	Bharda Zoo	Raisen
39.		Forest Training School, Wildlife Park	Betul
40.	Maharashtra	Crocodile Centre, Tadoba	Chandra Pur
41.		Dadasaheb Vagre Snake Park	Yavatmal
42.		Deer Park	Gangapur
43.		Hutatma Bag Prani Sangrahalaya	Solapur
44.		Jawaharlal Nehru Van Udyan, Pandavlene	Nasik
45.		Nehru Garden	Sangamner
46.		Rambagh Cheetal Park	Chandrapur
47.		Sameer Udyan Zoo, Sakarwadi	Ahmed Nagar

1	2	3	4
48.		Shantinikatan Student Nature Club & Zoo	Sangli
49.		Shivaji Udyan	Nasik
50.		Shri Ganjanan Vatika	Buldana
51.		Snake Park	Nagpur
52.		Vayu Sena Nagar Zoo	Nagpur
53.		Vivekanand Vidya Mandir Zoo	Buldana
54.	Orissa	Palm Beach Zoo, Gopalpur	Ganjam
55.		Science Corner of Bal Bhawan, NCSTC Network	Bhubaneshwar
56.	Punjab	Agarsar Athanve Nature Park	Patiala Cantt.
57.		Guest House Mini Deer Park, Thermal Colony	Bhatinda
58.		Mini Zoo at Rose Garden	Ludhiana
59.		Mini Zoo, Aram Bagh	Amritsar
60.		Mini Zoo, Bansar Bagh	Sangrur
61.		Mini Zoo, Sector 6	Chandigarh
62.	Sikkim	Baguwa Pheasant Farm	Gangtok
63.	Tamil Nadu	Deer Park	Mukkombu
64.		Montfort School Mini Zoo, Yercaud	Salem
65.		St. Joseph's Mini Zoo	Coonoor
66.	Tripura	Deer Park, Patichari	Patichari
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Aad Chirya Ghar (Touring)	Varanasi
68.		Bajrang Touring Zoo	Varanasi
69.		Bharat Mini Zoo, Chilkana	Saharanpur
70.		Bharatiya Touring Zoo	Lalbaug
71.		Bina Kamal Golden Zoo	Buland Shahar
72.		Chetna Kendra, Ridhani Range	Meerut
73.		Mrig Vihar Van Chetna Kendra—Moth	Jhansi
74.		Nawab Tank Mrig Vihar	Gonda
75.		Nehru Van Chetna Kendra	Ehah
76.		New Pradesi Touring Zoo	Hardoi
77.		Pradesh Chirya Ghar, Sitapur, Avodh	Hardoi
78.		Shukratal Chital Park	Muzaffar Nagar

1	2	3	4
79.		Van Chetna Kendra	Massoriy
80.		Van Chetna Kendra Mukandpur	Aligarh
81.		Van Chetna Kendra, Nagal	Saharanpur
82.		Van Chetna Kendra, Narora	Buland. Shahar
83.		Van Manoranjan Kendra	Rampur
84.		Wyndhum Fall Mini Zoo	Mirzapur
85.	Uttaranchal	Sanjay Gandhi Mrig Vatika, Mangalore	Haridwar
86.	West Bengal	Anita Mobile Zoo, Baruipur	Parganas South
87.		Birla Industrial & Technological Museum, Animalorium	Calcutta
88.		Deepak Mitra's Snake House, Hindustan Park	Calcutta
89.		Famous Mobile Zoo	Howrah
90.		Jaya Mobile Zoo	Howrah

### Renewal of Mining Lease

5424. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalized the policy guidelines relating to mining lease on forest land in the country;

(b) if not, by when the new policy guidelines are likely to be formulated;

(c) whether a number of proposals have been received by the Union Government of renewal of mining lease;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the status of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Every proposal received for forestry clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 including those of mining lease is considered on merit. As every proposal is considered on merits, no general policy guidelines have been made in respect of mining in Bellary-Hospet region of Kamataka have recently been finalized.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The State-wise status of major proposals involving diversion of forest land above 20 hectare in respect of mining leases received during the last three years i.e. 2000, 2001 and 2002 is enclosed as statement.

### Statement

S.No.	Name of Proposal	Status
1	2	3
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Mining lease to SCCL, Adilabad.	Approved on 28.11.01.
2.	Mining lease to APMDC	Rejected on 3.5.01.

1	2	3
3.	Mining lease to SCCL, Warangal	Additional information awaited.
4.	Mining lease to SCCL, Warangal	Approved on 1.3.2002.
5.	Mining lease for limestone, Adilabad	Approved on 10.1.01.
6.	Mining lease to SCCL, Adilabad	Approved in-principle on 1.1.02.
7.	Mining lease to SCCL, Khammam	Approved in-principle on 1.1.02
8.	Mining lease to APMDC, Vizag	Returned on 30.7.01.
9.	Mining lease to SCCL, Adilabad	ED S/SIR 1.11.01.
10.	Mining lease of M/s. KCP Ltd., Guntur	Approved on 21.11.02.
11.	Mining lease to M/s. Kakatiya Cement, Krishna	Approved in-principle on 18.10.02.
12.	Mining lease to SCCL	Site inspection report sought on 3.10.02.
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>		
13.	Mining lease to SECL, Korba.	Approved on 2.4.02.
14.	Mining lease to Raipur Steel Ltd., Rajnandgaon.	Approved on 15.5.02.
15.	Mining lease to BSP, Durg	Approved on 7.3.03.
16.	Mining lease to Jayaswal Neco, Raigarh.	Under process.
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
17.	Mining lease to SECL, Shahdol.	Approved on 19.7.00
18.	Mining lease to J.K. Minerals, Balaghat	Approved on 15.2.00
19.	Mining lease to BALCO, Dindori	Approved in-principle on 16.3.2000
20.	Mining lease to BALCO, Dindori	Rejected on 3.7.00
21.	Mining lease to WCL, Chhindwara	Approved on 11.4.01.
22.	Mining lease to WCL, Chhindwara	Approved in-principle on 20.3.01.
23.	Mining lease to WCL in Pathakhera	Approved on 20.3.01
24.	Mining lease to Jailal Bharatlal, Satna	Returned on 28.11.01.
25.	Mining lease to SECL, Sidhi	Approved on 12.8.02
26.	Mining lease to SECL, Shahdol	Under process
27.	Mining lease to SECL, Shahdol	Additional information sought on 10.7.02.
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
28.	Mining lease to M/s MOIL	Approved on 20.5.02.
29.	Mining lease to WCL	Approved on 1.6.01.
30.	Mining lease to WCL	Approved on 16.1.02.

1	2	3
31.	Mining lease to WCL, Chandrapur	Approved on 12.6.02.
32.	Mining lease to Manikgarh Cement, Chandrapur	Approved on 28.11.01.
	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	
33.	Mining lease to Gagaj Cement Works	Approved on 25.1.01.
34.	Mining lease to Gujarat Ambuja Cements	Approved on 26.2.02.
	<b>Karnataka</b>	
35.	Mining lease to MML at Thimapanagudi	Approved on 18.4.01.
36.	Mining lease to Balaji Mines & Minerals Ltd.,	Approved in-principle on 10.7.00.
37.	Mining lease to MML	Under process.
38.	Mining lease of Tungabhadra Minerals	Approved on 9.1.01.
39.	Mining lease of Bharat Mines, Bellary	Approved on 20.3.01.
40.	Mining lease of Srinivasulu, Hospet	Under process.
41.	Mining lease of Venganapatty, Hospet	Under process
42.	Mining lease of Doddanavar Brothers, Belgaum	Approved on 20.6.01
43.	Mining lease of M/s Gaviappa, Bellary	Under process
44.	Mining lease of VNK Menon, Bellary	Under process
45.	Mining lease of A. Veerbhadrapa, Hosadurga	Approved on 16.1.02
46.	Mining lease to K. Vishwanath, Davangere	Approved on 14.2.02.
47.	Mining lease to Goga Gurushanthiah, Bellary	Under process.
	<b>Orissa</b>	
48.	Quartzite mines of Bunwarilal, Keonjhar	Closed on 2.11.01.
49.	Mining less of M/s OMC Ltd.	Approved on 8.6.01.
50.	Mining lease of M/s AMTC Ltd.	Approved on 29.6.01.
51.	Mining lease to S. Sarda & M. Sarda	Approved on 21.6.01.
52.	Mining lease to Jindal Strips Ltd., Jaipur	Approved on 5.7.01.
53.	Mining lease to M/s. D.C. Jain, Keonjhar	Approved in-principle on 3.12.02.
54.	Mining lease to M/s. OMC Jaipur	Approved on 5.2.01.
55.	Mining lease of Rungta Mines, Sundergarh	Approved in-principle on 6.2.01.
56.	Iron ore mining of OMC Ltd.	Approved in-principle on 4.5.01.
57.	Mining lease of KJS Ahluwalia, Keonjhar	Approved in-principle on 16.4.02.
58.	Mining lease to G.L. Agarwal, Bolangir	Approved in-principle on 12.8.02.
59.	Mining lease of B.C. Sahu	Rejected on 10.1.03.

1	2	3
60.	Mining lease of MCL, Angul	Approved in-principle on 17.10.02.
61.	Mining lease of ICCL, Jaipur	Site inspection by expert committee to be taken up.
<b>Jharkhand</b>		
62.	Mining lease to Rameshwar Mills	Closed on 28.11.01.
63.	Mining lease to Shah Bros.	Additional information awaited from the State Government.
64.	Mining lease of CCL	Approved in-principle on 10.1.03.
65.	Mining lease of CCL	Under process.
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
66.	Mining lease to RSMDC in Bikaner	Approved on 1.11.02.
67.	Mining lease to RSMDC, Dantewada	Under process
68.	Mining lease of M/s. Nalwaya Minerals, Dungerpur	Under process.
69.	Mining lease to RSMDC, Jalore	Under process.
<b>Bihar</b>		
70.	Mining lease of SAIL	Approved in-principle on 22.1.02.
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
71.	Quarrying of stones, Sonebhadra	Under process
<b>Goa</b>		
72.	Lease No. 63/51 of Chandrakant Nayak	Under process
73.	Lease No. 14/52 of Badruddin Marani	Under process
74.	Lease No. 4/52 of S. Kantilal	Under process
75.	Lease No. 8/48 of G.N. Agarwal	Under process
76.	Lease No. 30/50 of Dr. P.R. Hede	Under process
77.	Lease No. 13/55 of V.M. Salgaonkar	Under process
78.	Lease No. 10/51 of H.K. Khan, South Goa	Under process
79.	Lease No. 45/54 of M/s. SOVA, Sought Goa	Under process
80.	Lease No. 50/53 of V.M. Salgaonkar	Under process
81.	Lease No. 60/51 of M. Marcanenhas, S. Goa	Under process
82.	Lease No. 43/53 of N.M.A. Karim, S. Goa	Under process
83.	Lease No. 14/51 of V.D. Chowgule, S. Goa	Under process
84.	Lease No. 53/52 of A. Kudochodkar, S. Goa	Under process
85.	Lease No. 100/53 of A. Kudochodkar, S. Goa	Under process

**Harassment at Airport**

5425. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Keralites arriving at Sahara International Airport, Mumbai from the Gulf Countries are harassed by the airport, police, customs and immigration authorities by impounding their passports unnecessarily and demanding bribe; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check such harassment in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Only immigration officials are empowered to impound passports. No specific complaint/case for harassment or impounding passport unnecessarily or demanding bribes at Sahara Airport has been reported during the last 2 years.

**Irregularities in IASRI**

5426. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission received a series of complaints during last three years regarding financial and other irregularities in Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI);

(b) if so, the details of above complaints alongwith date of receipt and the officials involved; and

(c) the action taken to investigate the above complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Central Vigilance Commission has forwarded one complaint pertaining to IASRI to the ICAR for an investigation.

(b) The complaint alleging harassment of Dr. V.T. Prabhakaran, Principal Scientist, IASRI by the Director, IASRI was forwarded to the office of the Chief Vigilance Officer of ICAR on 7.10.02.

(c) The matter was investigated by the Subject Matter Division of the ICAR. The investigation did not reveal any matter of substance on which action was required.

**Seafood Policy**

5427. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any requests have been received by the Government of formulate a comprehensive seafood policy;

(b) if so, the reasons and objectives for such a policy; and

(c) by when it is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The Government of India has constituted an Expert Group for formulation of a Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy with the objective for sustainable exploitation of India fishery resources. The Group have submitted its report in June, 2001. Action has been initiated for examination of the recommendations of the Group for finalising a Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy.

**Crops under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme**

5428. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at present in commercial/horticulture crops are covered under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) if so, whether more horticulture/commercial crops are proposed to be covered under the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir. At present eleven annual commercial/horticultural crops namely, sugarcane, potato, cotton, chilly, turmeric, onion, ginger, jute, tapioca, annual banana and pine apple are being covered under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. More annual commercial/horticultural crops can be brought under the coverage of NAIS if the State concerned have adequate past yield data in respect of crop/crops intended to be covered.

(d) Does not arise.



**Buying Centres of KVIC for Jatropa Curcas**

5429. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has formulated plans to encourage the cultivation of "Jatropa Curcas" plantation in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether KVIC has linked such plantation to production of bio-diesel;

(c) if so, whether KVIC has offered to buy all the Jatropa Curcas produced in the country; and

(d) if so, the number of buying centres set up/to be set up by KVIC for the purpose, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) No, Sir. Cultivation activities are not in the purview of KVIC.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**New Air Services**

5430. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries to which air services have been introduced during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to introduce air services to some other countries also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Air India has introduced flights to Al Ain (UAE), Frankfurt (Germany) and New Jersey (USA) during the last three years. Indian Airlines has introduced service to Dubai in the UAE during the same period. Air Seycheles, Ariana Afghan Airlines, China Airlines (Taiwan), China Eastern Airlines (China), Mahan Air (Iran), Tajikistan Airlines and Virgin Atlantic airlines (UK) have also started operations to India from their respective countries over the last three years.

(b) and (c) Requests of other countries for operation of their airlines to different airports are examined as part of an ongoing process, depending upon traffic, demand etc.

**Allocation of Funds to JPC and Economic Research Unit**

5431. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated to the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) and the Economic Research Unit under his Ministry during the last two years;

(b) the details of work done by them during the said period;

(c) whether the targets fixed by them have been achieved; and

(d) if not, he reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No funds have been allocated to the Joint Plant Committee (JPC) and the Economic Research Unit (ERU) from the Consolidated Funds of India, since their inception. Expenditure on the functioning of JPC is met from the amount available under the JPC Account General Funds that was created through levy of cess during the control era. Expenditure on ERU is met from the interest accruals under the Steel Development Fund.

(b) The Joint Plant Committee performed the important task of collection and dissemination of data related to the Iron and Steel sector. Analysis of data and trends in the steel industry alongwith market research activities and promotion of steel consumption were the other major activities of the JPC.

The ERU performed tasks related to general research on the steel industry and economy, project appraisals, collection and analysis of global market information, study on work related to steel at the World Trade Organisation and the matters related to the Steel Exporters' Forum.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Not applicable, in view (c) above.

[*English*]

**Project Tiger and Project Elephant**

5432. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' set up in the country;

(b) the number of tigers including leopards and elephants in those project areas;

Tigers 1576

Leopards 1621

(c) the main objectives of setting up of these projects; and

Elephants 20200

(d) the funds spent on these projects during the last three years?

(c) The objective of Project Tiger scheme is to ensure maintenance of a viable population of tiger, in India for scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological, values and to preserve for all time, areas of biological importance as a natural heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of the people. While the objectives of Project Elephant include, protection of elephants and improvement of their habitats and corridors, welfare of domesticated elephants, eliciting public co-operation, improvement of support services of elephant reserves.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The number of Project Tiger Reserves set up in the country is 27, while the number of Project Elephant Reserves in the country is 25.

(b) The number of Tigers, leopards and elephants reported in these reserves are:

(d) The financial assistance provided to the States under these projects during the last three years are at statement enclosed.

### Statement

#### State-wise Release under Project Tiger

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of Tiger Reserve Range State	2000-2001	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45.00	21.00	21.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	32.607	82.76	35.875
3.	Assam	156.10	46.00	65.70
4.	Bihar	87.077	50.00	25.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	35.00	32.48
6.	Karnataka	193.36	181.434	289.56
7.	Kerala	50.00	50.00	63.75
8.	Jharkhand	—	75.65	18.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	434.247	472.18	786.44
10.	Maharashtra	167.931	209.231	621.79
11.	Meghalaya	1.50	—	—
12.	Mizoram	27.58	20.495	98.32
13.	Orissa	83.31	126.81	32.88
14.	Rajasthan	299.705	170.319	294.92
15.	Tamil Nadu	60.315	16.00	125.00

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Uttaranchal	—	181.825	168.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	181.655	67.40	32.75
18.	West Bengal	98.18	142.176	168.33
Total		1918.567	1948.255	2879.895

*State-wise Release under Project Elephant*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

States	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Assam	45.00	94.50	116.00
Arunachal Pradesh	89.81	56.00	52.00
Meghalaya	35.73	30.00	41.00
Nagaland	35.17	72.13	49.00
Tripura	2.00	1.00	3.00
Mizoram	1.00	Nil	5.00
Manipur	1.00	Nil	Nil
Andhra Pradesh	46.30	31.00	50.00
Kerala	66.05	82.00	111.88
Karnataka	51.00	81.00	93.00
Tamilnadu	50.00	40.00	71.26
W. Bengal	79.04	95.00	86.47
Bihar/Jharkhand	5.00	22.688	45.00
Orissa	29.75	102.03	108.39
U.P./Uttaranchal	100.00	125.14	107.00
Total	636.85	832.488	939.00

*[Translation]***Difference in Air Fare**

5433. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge difference in air fares of the public sector aviation companies and private sector companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of the comparative fares in this regard as on April 01, 2003;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring parity in the air fare; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Fares on domestic sector are not regulated. All airlines operators are free to charge fares based on their cost input and the competitive market environment.

*[English]***Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001**

5434. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of "Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001" with the persons covered out of targeted number;

(b) whether the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance are not providing funds for this scheme; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) The Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001 is in operation through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in 50 identified district to cover 10 lakh agricultural workers during the first phase of three years. According to information received from LIC about two lakh agricultural workers have been covered under the scheme as on 31.1.2003.

(b) and (c) For the first year i.e. 2001-2002, the Government contribution under the scheme was met from the Social Security Fund. The source of funding for the remaining period has not yet been decided.

**Danger to Ajanta/Ellora Caves**

5435. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study by Geological Survey of India (GSI) has revealed that noise and other pollution have made adverse impact on Ajanta and Ellora Caves;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to save these caves?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India, Nagpur Division has carried out Multidisciplinary Geo technical investigations including the environmental studies at Ajanta and Ellora caves during the years 1998-2001 and they have revealed that noise and other pollution have some impact on the caves.

(c) The area has been declared as a silence zone. Vehicular traffic has been diverted and shopkeepers have been shifted from foothill of the caves to the recently

constructed shopping complex at T-Point. Non polluting buses are in operation from T-Point to the caves to control noise and dust pollution.

**Employment Policy**

5436. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has declared its employment policy for protecting the interests of Island youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether about 5,000 vacancies in the Administration are being managed by the casual or contract workers;

(d) if so, whether the Administration propose to fill up these vacancies under a time-bound programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) to (e) The details are being collected from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration and the same will be made available.

*[Translation]***Durgawati Reservoir Scheme**

5437. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted Durgawati Reservoir Scheme to the Union Government for approval; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for its clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Investment clearance to Durgawati Reservoir Scheme was initially accorded by the Planning Commission for Rs. 25.30 Crore on 16.05.1975. Thereafter, the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources communicated conditional clearance to updated estimate cost of Rs. 234.4 Crore (1998 price level) of the project submitted in November, 1998. On 13.09.2002, the Government of Bihar has submitted Revised Estimate of the project for Rs. 379.04 Crore (2002 SOR), for appraisal in Central Water Commission.

The comments of the specialised directorates of Central Water Commission have been sent to State Govt. of Bihar.

[English]

#### **Amendment to State Co-operative Act**

5438. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has thrown open its cooperative sector in sugar and spinning for privatization;

(b) if so, whether the amendment to State Co-operative Act is necessary for privatisation of co-operatives;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other States that are likely to follow suit by privatizing the co-operative sector due to large scale sickness and loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Tamil Nadu Government has reported that they have not thrown open their cooperative sector in sugar and spinning for privatization.

(d) Question does not arise.

#### **Wildfires in Gir Wildlife Sanctuary**

5439. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several thousands hectares of forest land have been destroyed due to fire during the last three years alongwith the recent fire in Gir Wildlife Sanctuary;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the loss of forest produce in terms of value in each such fire;

(d) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to check such wildfires in association with the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Incidences of fires in Gir affected 1092 ha, 532 ha. and 2196 ha. of forest area during 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 respectively.

(b) and (c) A statement regarding details of each of the fire incidents, reasons therefor and loss of forest produce in terms of value, in Gir is enclosed. Further, intangible ecological losses like loosening of soil which can lead to increased erosion, disturbance to moisture regime, etc, suffered by an area affected by fire, cannot be estimated in monetary terms.

(d) and (e) Central Government has prepared a 'National Master Plan for forest fire Control' in consultation with the State Governments. The Master Plan includes providing assistance for taking help of the latest satellite remote sensing technology in monitoring of forest fires, assessing the tangible losses, preparation of fire danger rating systems and use of other traditional methods, and taking the help of the Joint Forest Management Committee for fire prevention and control.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	Year	Name of Division	Date	Location/Beat	Estimated area affected ha.	Types of forest produce burnt	Estimated loss (Rs.)	Reported loss of wild animals	Reasons for fire
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	2000-01	Gir (E) Dhari	1/12/2000	Krangsa	5	Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.	—	—	Accidental
2.			2/12/2000	Moti Jamwali	10		500	—	Accidenta:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.			8/12/2000	Kotharia	10		—	—	Accidental
4.			22/12/00	Matanmala	1.5		100	—	Accidental
5.			22/12/00	Karamdadi	2		—	—	Accidental
6.			25/12/00	Karamdadi	20		—	—	Accidental
7.			8/1/2001	Nani Jenagar	2		250	—	Accidental
8.			9/1/2001	Karkadi	35		1000	—	Accidental
9.			10/1/2001	Nani Jenagar	15		2500	—	Accidental
10.			13/1/01	Nani Jenagar	3		300	—	Accidental
11.			15/3/01	Bherala	15		700	—	Accidental
<b>Total of Gir (E) Dhari</b>					118.5		5350		
1.	Gir (W) Junagarh		27/11/00	Sudava	12		600	—	Accidental
2.			29/11/00	Somasar	30	Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.	500	—	Accidental
3.			3/11/2000	Nima	60		1200	—	Accidental
4.			30/11/00	Dabhala	20		1300	—	Accidental
5.			1/12/2000	Barvania	2		3000	—	Accidental
6.			3/12/2000	Sismal, Lapatani & Devalvel	700		8300	—	Accidental
7.			4/12/2000	Chorvada	20		150	—	Accidental
8.			6/12/2000	Nima	5		325	—	Accidental
9.			8/12/2000	Kansoria Moti	5		150	—	Accidental
10.			25/12/00	Kamleshwar	60		1000	—	Accidental
11.			30/12/00	Dron vidi	1.5		3000	—	Accidental
12.			9/1/2001	Lilapani	4		1200	—	Accidental
13.			9/1/2001	Amabliyada	1		300	—	Accidental
14.			16/1/01	Kadeli	0.0005		—	—	Accidental
15.			19/1/01	Khodiar vidi	10		—	—	Accidental
16.			27/1/01	Dabhala	5		600	—	Accidental
17.			2/3/2001	Dron vidi	2.5		3000	—	Accidental
18.			2/3/2001	Kansia	35		—	—	Accidental
<b>Total of Gir (W) Junagadh</b>					973		24625		
<b>Grand Total of 2000-01</b>					1092	Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.	29975		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1.	2001-02	Gir (E) Dhari	5/11/2001	Luvania	1		—	—	Accidental	
2.			14/11/01	Ambardi	2		500	—	Accidental	
3.			19/11/01	Nani Vadai	50		5000	—	Accidental	
4.			30/11/01	Nani Jamwali	50		4000	—	Accidental	
5.			5/12/2001	Kotharia	15		—	—	Accidental	
6.			16/12/01	SMC Dhari	3		25	—	Accidental (Due to Electric spark)	
7.			29/12/01	Borada	5		500	—	Accidental	
8.			3/1/2002	Dhari	5		800	—	Accidental (Due to Electric spark)	
9.			30/1/02	Vadai	6		500	—	Accidental (Due to Electric spark)	
10.			4/2/2002	Krangsa	30		1000	—	Accidental	
11.			16/2/02	Krangsa	10		6000	—	Accidental	
12.			24/2/02	Gidardi	20		9000	—	Accidental	
13.			30/3/02	Nana liia	10		1500	—	Accidental	
14.			31/3/02	Chhatadia	40		6000	—	Accidental	
<b>Total of Gir (E) Dhari</b>					247		43825			
						Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.				
1.		Gir (W) Junagadh	8/11/2001	Kansia	40		2000	—	Accidental	
2.			9/11/2001	Kansia	8		200	—	Accidental	
3.			18/11/01	Chhodavadi moti	50		1500	—	Accidental	
4.			22/11/01	Dron	2		150	—	Accidental	
5.			29/11/01	Alavani	15		100	—	Accidental	
6.			6/12/2001	Jambuthala	150		2500	—	Accidental	
7.			26/1/02	Khodiyar	10		100	—	Accidental	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.			21/2/02	Dedakadi	7		540	—	Accidental
9.			13/3/02	Khambhada	1		75	—	Accidental
10.			23/3/02	Kamleshwar	2		50	—	Accidental
<b>Total of Gir (W) Junagadh</b>					285		7215		
<b>Grand Total of 2001-02</b>					532		51040		
1.	2002-03	Gir (E) Dhari	11/4/2002	Krangsa	700		100000	—	Accidental (Due to Electric spark)
				Nani Jamwali	50		—	—	Accidental
2.			12/4/2002	Nani Jamwali	125		20000	—	Accidental
3.			14/4/02	Krangsa	7		—	—	Accidental
4.			21/4/02	Mitiala	175		—	—	Accidental
5.			25/4/02	Mitiala	50	Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.	5000	—	Deliberately
6.			24/10/02	Dhari	2		200	—	Accidental (Electrocution)
7.			5/11/2002	Dhari	1.5		600	—	Accidental (Electrocution)
8.			7/11/2002	Ambardi	5		600	—	Accidental
9.			15/11/02	Ambardi	1.5		100	—	Accidental
10.			24/11/02	Ghavadia	3		—	—	Accidental
11.			5/12/2002	Ambardi	1		100	—	Accidental
12.			13/12/02	Nani Jenagar	4		100	—	Accidental
13.			30/12/02	Gidardi	4		—	—	Accidental
14.			3/2/2003	Mitiala	5		600	—	Accidental
15.			4/3/2003	Bherada	20		2000	—	Accidental
16.			4/3/2003	Chanchai	60		5000	—	Accidental
17.			6/3/2003	Canchai	350		15000	—	Accidental
18.			12/3/2003	Sarsia (East)	85		5000	—	Deliberately
<b>Total of Gir (E) Dhari</b>					1649		154300		
1.		Gir (W) Junagadh	10/6/2002	Chotakiyali	10		200	—	Accidental
2.			1/11/2002	Rajpara	2		150	—	Accidental



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.			14/11/02	Patala	60	Dry fallen leaves, dry twigs and dry grass.	650	—	Accidental
4.			16/11/02	Suki Khodiar	40		1200	—	Accidental
5.			10/12/2002	Kanedipur	1		—	—	Accidental
6.			14/12/02	Rayadi	15		225	—	Accidental
7.			25/12/02	Jamwali	50		1100	—	Accidental
8.			10/2/2003	Kutiya	3		—	—	Accidental
9.			6/2/2003	Dron vidi	2		—	—	Accidental
10.			14/2/03	Rayadi	12		—	—	Accidental
11.			15/2/03	Gundiali	10		175	—	Accidental
12.			27/2/03	Sasan	2		—	—	Accidental
13.			8/3/2003	Vaniavav	5		—	—	Accidental
14.			18/3/03	Kalipat	110		1750	—	Accidental
15.			18/3/03	Ambavadi khodiar	25		—	—	Accidental
16.			18/3/03	Kalipat	100		—	—	Accidental
17.			18/3/03	Kalipat	80		—	—	Accidental
18.			18/3/03	Dabhivako vistar	20		250	—	Accidental
<b>Total of Gir (W) Junagadh</b>					547		5700		
<b>Grand Total of 2002-03</b>					2196		180000		

**Making Storage of Water a Fundamental Right***[Translation]*

5440. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to amend the Constitution and make water storage a fundamental right; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not received any request from the Government of Karnataka to amend the Constitution and make water storage a fundamental right.

(b) Does not arise.

**Agricultural Projects**

5441. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agricultural projects have been sanctioned for various States including Jharkhand and Bihar during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the names of the States where agricultural projects are likely to be started during the current year; and

(d) the present position of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (d) The State-wise details of major Schemes under implementation in various States including Jharkhand and Bihar for the development of Agriculture by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are given at Statement enclosed.

Macro Management Scheme, on farm water management, technology mission for horticulture development in the North-Eastern States, construction of rural godowns, establishment of agri-business centres and agriclincs are the major new Schemes which have been taken up in the last three years.

### **Statement**

*The State-wise details of major Schemes under implementation in various States including Jharkhand and Bihar.*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Name of the State
1.	Macro Management Scheme	All States
2.	Technology Mission on Cotton	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Prades, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.
3.	On-Farm Water Management	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.
4.	Oilseed Production Programme	All States
5.	National Pulses Development Project	All States
6.	Oil Palm Development Programme	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Tripura.
7.	Accelerated Maize Development Programme.	All States except Goa and Kerala
8.	Technology Mission for Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Sikkim.	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim
9.	Construction of Rural Godowns	All States
10.	Establishment of Agri-Business and Agri-clinics.	All States
11.	National Horticulture Board	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal.

[English]

#### **Chingipur Feeder Canal**

5442. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chingipur Feeder Canal along Farrakha Barrage is providing agricultural support to the districts of Murshidabad; and

(b) if so, the hectares of land benefited for irrigation by the said canal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY):  
(a) There is no Chingipur Feeder Canal along Farakka Barrage. However there is a Feeder Canal along Farakka Barrage upto Jangipur Barrage. There is no direct agricultural support to the District of Murshidabad from the Feeder Canal of Farakka Barrage Project.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shortfall in Oilseeds**

5443. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortfall in oilseeds during 2003-2004 will be about 6 million tonnes;

(b) if so, whether any efforts have been made to start a crash programme to encourage farmers to switch over to oilseeds production in the coming year;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to meet this shortfall;

(d) whether any funds will be given to State Governments to implement a crash plan to raise oilseeds production; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):  
(a) The crop sowing season for the year 2003-04 is yet to commence and the production of oilseeds depends upon the vagaries of weather. As such it is not possible to make any assessment about the shortfall in the production of oilseeds at this stage.

(b) and (c) As a part of National Policy for Agriculture, The Govt. has been emphasizing crop diversification in favour of oilseeds and the Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is being continued during the Tenth Five Year Plan also.

(d) and (e) In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 28 States covering 408 selected districts. An amount of Rs. 93.00 crores has been allocated in the year 2003-04 under this programme including fund transfers to States as per their assessed requirement commensurate with the availability of funds.

**Production of Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds, Cotton**

5444. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimate production of cereals, pulses, oilseeds and cotton during the current year;

(b) the details of estimated shortfall or surplus; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to dispose of the surplus or to meet with the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):  
(a) and (b) The estimated production of cereals pulses, oilseeds and cotton in the country during 2002-03 and its shortfall vis-a-vis the production during 2001-02 is given in the statement below:

(Million Tonnes)			
Crop	2001-02	2002-03*	Shortfall
Cereals	198.83	172.25	26.58
Pulses	13.19	11.81	1.38
Oilseeds#	20.46	15.57	4.89
Cotton®	10.09	8.57	1.52

\*Third Advance Estimates as on 4.4.2003.

#Includes groundnut, castorseed, sesamum, nigerseed, rapeseed & mustard,

®In million bales of 170 kgs.

(c) As the stock position of cereals in the country is much above the buffer stock norm, there is no crisis due to the shortfall in production of cereals. Pulses and edible oils are covered under the Open General Licence (OGL), and their import is allowed freely. This would help bridge the gap between demand and production of pulses and edible oils.

The agricultural production in the country shows a long-term upward trend, albeit with fluctuations due to weather aberrations. However, in order to further improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have taken a number of initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price and Market Intervention Schemes. Apart from these, the Government have also adopted macro-management mode for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in

the contents of different schemes and aim at all round development of agriculture.

#### **Assistance to States for Digging of Wells**

5445. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from State Governments for financial assistance for digging of wells in the States including Andhra Pradesh and Uttranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(c) by when the same is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not received any such proposal.

(b) and (c) In view of above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Review of Child Labour Laws**

5446. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the child labour laws;

(b) if so, the amendments enacted therein by the Government during the last three years; and

(c) the achievements accrued therefrom by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amendments to make the Act more stringent include (a) making the offence the cognizable offence under the Child Labour (Prohibition & (Regulation) Act, 1986; (b) making the penalties more stringent and deterrent; and (c) the responsibility of providing proof of age of child would be on the employer.

(c) After amendments, the Schedule to the Act has been enlarged to cover 13 occupations and 57 processes

for prohibiting child labour. During the last 5 years 12,348 prosecutions have been launched against offending employers.

[Translation]

#### **Water Position of Reservoirs**

5447. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water position in major reservoirs of the country continues to be critical as a monitoring group has found the level of water very low due to accumulation of silt therein;

(b) if so, whether the Government have directed the State Government to desilt these reservoirs; and

(c) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the monitoring report of the Central Water Commission, 70 important major reservoirs in the country have combined designed live storage capacity of 130.553 billion cubic metre (BCM) that is 74% of storage created in the country. The overall storage in these reservoirs at the end of monsoon (30.09.2002) was 66.39 BCM and that on 17.04.03 was 23.78 BCM (18% of the storage capacity at FRL) against 25.74 BCM (20 percent of the storage capacity at FRL) which is the average storage of the last 10 years. Thus, it can be seen that the storage status during this years is less than the last year and less than the average storage of last 10 years. The low storage built up in the reservoir can be attributed to poor Southwest monsoon 2002. The seasonal rainfall (June-September) for the country as a whole was 19% below normal, making 2002 an all India drought year.

The analysis of data collected for various reservoirs show that the sedimentation rates are not alarming. Further, it has been experienced from the surveys conducted during last three decades that the sedimentation rate in reservoirs is higher during the initial period of their operation and thereafter it falls-off significantly. Even some of the reservoirs having completed their planned life are still continuing to serve and provide substantial benefits. Thus, the apprehension about reduction in the storage of reservoirs due to excessive sedimentation is unfounded.

(b) No direction has been given to the State Governments to details the reservoirs.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**External Assistance for Environmental Programmes**

5448. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been obtained from abroad in the form of loan for various environmental programmes during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of States where the said amount has been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the Environmental Programmes for which loans have been obtained from abroad are at the statement.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the Project.	Source of loan	State utilising the loan.	Total loan amount in donor currency (in millions).
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gujarat Afforestation & Development Project.	Japan	Gujarat	JPY 1576
2.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation Project.	Japan	Karnataka	JPY 1596.8
3.	Attappady Wasteland Comprehensive Environment Project.	Japan	Kerala	JPY 511.2
4.	Lake Bhopal Conservation & Management Project.	Japan	Madhya Pradesh	JPY 705.5
5.	Punjab Afforestation Project.	Japan	Punjab.	JPY 618.8
6.	(I) Afforestation Development Project (IG Nahar). (ii) Afforestation of Aravalli Hills. (iii) Rajasthan Forestry Development Project.	Japan	Rajasthan	JPY 1686.3
8.	Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project.	Japan	Tamil Nadu	JPY 1332.4
9.	Industrial Pollution Control Project (West Bengal).	Japan	West Bengal	JPY 152.5
10.	Andhra Pradesh forestry Management Project.	IDA	Andhra Pradesh	US \$ 0.15
11.	Industrial Pollution Control	IBRD	Central Government.	US \$ 0.20
12.	(i) Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project. (ii) Andhra Pradesh Community Forestry Management Project.	IDA	Andhra Pradesh	XDR 14.08

1	2	3	4	5
13.	(i) Industrial Pollution Control Programme (ii) Industrial Pollution Prevention. (iii) Eco-development Project.	IDA	Central Government	XDR 4.82
14.	Kerala Forestry Project.	IDA	Kerala	XDR 2.88
15.	Maharashtra Forestry Project.	IDA	Maharashtra.	XDR 6.72
16.	Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project.	IDA	Madhya Pradesh	XDR 3.88
17.	(i) Forestry Research Education & Extension Project (ii) Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project.	IDA	Multi State. Uttar Pradesh.	XDR 6.92

[English]

#### **Amendment to CRZ Rules**

5449. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to make certain amendments in Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any suggestions/requests from public, environmentalists and State Governments have been invited and received during the last three years and current year till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on each such requests/suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) During the last three years the Government have received several suggestions from the Governments of Coastal States/Union Territories, environmentalists and others for amending the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 which inter-alia others for amending the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 which inter-alia included harvesting of salty by solar evaporation in inter-tidal areas, mining of limestone within CRZ area in Gujarat, relaxation of CRZ for taking up development of housing projects in Maharashtra, relaxation for developing coastal tourism

projects in Goa, reduction of CRZ for constructing dwelling units along backwaters of Kerala, mining of sand in CRZ areas in Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands and reduction of CRZ for the islands of A&N.

After taking into consideration the above suggestions, the Government had issued amendments to CRZ Notification, 1991 which inter-alia, provide for mining for sand in the CRZ area in Andaman & Nicobar Islands on year-to-year basis, storage and regasification of Liquefied Natural Gas in CRZ areas and exploration of oil and natural gas in intertidal area.

A draft Notification inviting objections/suggestions from the public was issued vide SO No. 51 (E) on 11.1.2002 which inter-alia provided for (i) reduction in CRZ area upto 50 meters or width of the rivers, creeks or backwaters whichever is less for specified stretches to permit construction of dwelling units for local inhabitants subject to certain conditions, (ii) permitting construction of housing schemes of State Urban Development Authorities which were commenced prior to 19.02.1991 in CRZ II areas, (iii) doing away with 'No Development Zone' in the notified Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and within existing notified port limits, (iv) permitting dwelling units and infrastructure facilities for the local inhabitants within CRZ III areas subject to certain conditions and (v) salt harvesting by solar evaporation in intertidal areas. The Notification was finalized on 21st May, 2002 taking into account various suggestions/objections received.

#### **Maids Sent Abroad Illegally**

5450. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of maids are being sent to gulf countries illegally by various agencies;

(b) if so, the number of cases noticed by the Government during the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop this menace; and

(d) the action taken against those agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three years 115 cases were noticed by the Government.

(c) The Government has, inter-alia, issued instructions barring recruitment of housemaids below thirty years of age, restricting/enforcing strict screening of housemaid for employment in certain countries and have also written to the Home Secretaries of all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to issue appropriate instructions for checking such illegal activities of unscrupulous agents.

(d) Reports are filed with the concerned Police authorities who take-up investigation and prosecution of those agencies/persons found involved in such illegal activities.

[*Translation*]

#### **Discontinuation of Night Flights**

5451. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines have discontinued their flights operated at night for ferrying Indians stranded in Kuwait; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Air India and Indian Airlines undertook additional flights in March, 2003, on commercial basis, to meet the initial rush of passengers coming from Kuwait to India. However, there was no additional demand thereafter, and both airlines have maintained their normal flight operations to Kuwait. To avoid crew layover in Kuwait, the flights were also rescheduled by Air India.

[*English*]

#### **Eco-Tourism**

5452. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Taj Group has signed any pact with foreign firms to promote eco-tourism;

(b) if so, whether India and China had also signed any agreement in tourism sector in 2002; and

(c) if so, the details of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that Taj plans for setting up a subsidiary and sub-brand to look into its environmental tourism venture?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Taj Group of hotels has informed that they are contemplating looking at Eco-Tourism but the issue is still in the preliminary stage.

(b) Yes, Sir. A bilateral tourism cooperation agreement between India and China was signed on 14th January, 2002.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Awareness Drive for Water Conservation**

5453. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has launched awareness drive for water conservation in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The information for answering the question is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

#### **Rehabilitation of Displaced People of Maan Dam in Madhya Pradesh**

5454. SHRI VIRCHANDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people affected due to construction of Maan Dam in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether any efforts have been made to rehabilitate those persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) A total of 993 families are affected due to construction of Maan dam in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Out of the total affected families, 805 families have to be shifted from the affected villages and 730 families have been evacuated upto December, 2002. The project affected families (PAF's) are being rehabilitated as per the policy of Narmada Valley Development Authority.

#### **Shortage of Staff in IA**

5455. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines are facing shortage of staff;

(b) if so, the details of posts lying vacant as on date; and

(c) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) In Indian Airlines, there is a shortage of manpower in some Departments, particularly operating Departments. The aircraft utilization and the number of stations on the network have gone up in the last three years. In order to take care of these requirements, as also normal attrition, vacancies are released from time to time.

Vacancies in the following categories have been notified/advertised and the recruitment for these is in progress:

1. Pilots 20.
2. Engineers 121.
3. Technicians 128.
4. Cabin Crew 191 (22 cabin crew are already undergoing training).
5. Asstt. Manager.  
(Flight operations) 21.

#### **Discounts by IA**

5456. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has decided to streamline concessions provided to senior citizens and students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the savings likely to accrue to Indian Airlines by imposing new conditions on discounts on Air tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) This Ministry has directed Indian Airlines Limited that any proposal relating to the existing categories of concession beneficiaries, should be submitted to the Ministry alongwith the recommendations of the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines Ltd. for taking a final decision. No such proposal has been received from Indian Airlines Ltd.

#### **Funds by ESIC for Medical Care**

5457. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ESI Corporation is providing funds for medical care for running medical schemes;

(b) if so, whether ESIC and State Governments share the expenditure on this account;

(c) if so, the present ratio thereof;

(d) whether State Governments propose for enhancement of ceiling on medical care;

(e) if so, whether any study has been conducted by ESIC through professional institutions to fix the realistic ceiling for medical care; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) Yes Sir.



(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The expenditure is shared in the ratio of 7:1 between the ESIC and the State Government within the prescribed ceiling; and any expenditure over and above the ceiling incurred by the State Governments is borne by them.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad has been assigned the study to fix the ceiling for medical care. However as an interim measure, ESI Corporation has decided to increase the ceiling from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 700/- per I.P. per annum with effect from 1.4.2003.

#### **Eco-Tourism**

5458. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote eco-tourism in various forest covered areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any plan to develop eco-tourism for western ghats has been formulated; and

(d) if so, the funds proposed for Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Government have announced a National Tourism Policy in the year 2002 wherein a greater emphasis has been laid on promotion of Eco-tourism. The Government have also set up a National Committee on Eco-tourism and Mountains to work out details for managing the fragile Eco-system and to consider projects/programmes for development of Eco-tourism in the country.

(c) and (d) The Union Government has not formulated any specific plan for the development of Eco-tourism in the Western Ghats.

#### **Privatisation in Water Sector**

5459. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:  
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed Multi-National Companies (MNCs) in water sector as part of its reform policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some organisations have opposed this move of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor; and

(e) the response of the Union Government alongwith the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The National Water Policy-2002 provides for private sector participation in planning, development and management of water resources projects for diverse uses, wherever feasible. Private Sector Participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users. depending upon the specific situations, various combinations of private sector participation, in building, owning, operating, leasing, and transferring of water resources facilities, may be considered. Water being a State subject, water resources schemes are planned, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources. As such, allowing Multi-National Companies (MNCs) in water sector rests with the concerned State Government.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Water Resources has not received any reference in this regard. However, concerns have been expressed in various quarters regarding infringement of rights of people on water as a result of privatisation in the sector. The policy of private sector participation is towards providing facilities/services in water resources sector and not for privatisation of water as a resource.

#### **Reservation in Jobs**

5460. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have strictly followed the reservation policy in appointment in the Government Departments and Autonomous institutions as well as attached offices under his Ministry particularly in the gazetted jobs or Class I and Class II employments;

(b) if so, the details thereof, institution-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in the reserved category;

(d) whether the Government find it difficult to fill up the Class I and Class II posts designated for the persons belonging to SC/ST and OBC; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and would be placed on the table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Development of Horticulture and Pisciculture**

5461. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes implemented for horticulture and pisciculture during each of the last three years;

(b) the funds provided for the purpose during the said period and the current year; State-wise;

(c) the funds actually utilized by each State during the said period;

(d) whether the State Governments have demanded additional funds during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The list of schemes implemented for Horticulture and Pisciculture in the country during the last three years is given in the Statement I enclosed. Most of the programmes for horticulture in the States are being implemented under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans.

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of funds provided and utilized under the Macro Management Scheme during the said period is given at the Statement II enclosed. The funds released during the said period under Pisciculture are given in the Statements III and IV enclosed. The budget estimate provided for pisciculture during 2003-04 is Rs. 1500 lakhs. The State-wise details of funds utilized under Pisciculture during the last three years and allocation for 2003 are not available.

(d) and (e) Under the Macro Management Scheme, the State Governments have been given the flexibility to take up programmes as per their felt needs and requirements. No such demands have been received under Pisciculture during 2003-04.

#### **Statement-I**

#### **List of Schemes on Horticulture and Pisciculture Implemented in the Country**

##### **A. Horticulture Schemes**

(a) Schemes merged under Macro Management with effect from October 2000:

- (i) Integrated Development of Fruits.
- (ii) Integrated Development of Vegetables including Root and Tuber Crops.
- (iii) Integrated Development of Mushrooms.
- (iv) Integrated Development of Spices.
- (v) Development of Commercial Floriculture.
- (vi) Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.
- (vii) Development of Horticulture through Plasticulture Intervention.
- (viii) Integrated Development Programme of Cashew & Cocoa.
- (ix) Development of Bee keeping for Improving Crop Productivity.

##### **(b) On-Going Schemes**

- (i) Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas.
- (ii) Human Resource Development in Horticulture.
- (iii) Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim.
- (iv) National Horticulture Board Programmes.
- (v) Coconut Development Programmes.

##### **B. Pisciculture Schemes**

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Development on Freshwater Acquaculture"
- (ii) Centrally sponsored Scheme on "Integrated Coastal Acquaculture".

**Statement-II***Funds released to various State Governments under Macro Management*

(Rs. In lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	2000-2001		2001-02		2002-03		Tentative Allocation (2003-04) (Central Share)
		Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2266.97	3158.45	2250.00	3421.40	1900.00	—	3400.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	534.00	528.06	219.50	373.85	463.00	237.57	400.00
3.	Assam	431.71	113.33	523.50	769.86	350.00	512.97	700.00
4.	Bihar	352.58	46.96	1800.00	1309.77	1250.00	—	1800.00
5.	Jharkhand	—	—	1095.00	675.00	600.00	—	1200.00
6.	Goa	26.42	138.79	200.00	199.29	162.00	102.88	200.00
7.	Gujarat	3000.00	3528.51	1900.00	625.92	1600.00	—	2300.00
8.	Haryana	1233.39	1272.90	1620.00	1767.57	1600.00	764.54	1600.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1241.29	1208.09	1800.00	1751.76	1600.00	665.62	1600.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	840.05	905.34	900.00	1130.41	1932.00	745.46	1600.00
11.	Karnataka	6020.08	4967.87	5850.00	6072.36	5338.00	3067.29	5500.00
12.	Kerala	3026.70	4750.09	2315.54	2313.54	2762.00	1506.00	2900.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3920.42	4430.99	5000.00	3674.88	4350.00	2783.31	4400.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	963.00	272.24	1339.02	1483.00	1138.00	748.07	1400.00
15.	Maharashtra	8892.11	7382.92	9000.00	9443.78	7612.00	3941.70	8000.00
16.	Manipur	479.13	428.44	345.00	517.11	300.00	—	600.00
17.	Meghalaya	542.32	409.68	204.74	677.9	701.00	273.39	600.00
18.	Mizoram	622.03	804.75	722.00	785.75	810.00	400.00	800.00
19.	Nagaland	1170.67	1201.50	776.80	776.80	660.00	—	800.00
20.	Orissa	614.89	1884.72	1485.00	1756.58	1250.00	1279.09	2300.00
21.	Punjab	667.29	325.02	1035.00	370.26	850.00	—	1500.00
22.	Rajasthan	6575.15	6212.89	5250.00	6667.52	6700.00	2415.57	6700.00
23.	Sikkim	737.86	680.77	422.00	659.45	330.00	513.00	500.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4441.27	2958.47	4500.00	5333.81	3360.00	2319.54	4200.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25.	Tripura	475.91	597.73	630.00	653.23	900.00	352.42	800.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6333.95	5774.58	7500.00	6270.65	6885.00	2843.13	6800.00
27.	Uttanchal	889.97	759.40	1400.00	1469.15	1290.00	518.55	1400.00
28.	West Bengal	1077.83	2047.99	2500.00	1908.03	1427.00	1845.66	2400.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	22.94	—	90.00	60.11	100.00	—	100.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.88	—	50.00	—	—	—	50.00
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6.10	—	135.00	135.00	100.00	—	100.00
32.	Daman & Diu	5.07	—	45.00	45.00	—	—	50.00
33.	Delhi	13.38	—	—	—	80.00	—	100.00
34.	Lakshadweep	5.01	—	90.00	64.02	100.00	—	100.00
35.	Pondicherry	20.62	—	135.00	99.44	100.00	—	100.00

**Statement-III***Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Development of Freshwater Aquaculture'*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the State	Funds Released		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	25.00	35.00	28.00
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	35.00	21.48	15.17
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0.00	61.55	103.29
Himachal Pradesh	22.73	5.00	25.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	12.50	0.00
Karnataka	0.00	0.00	40.00
Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	87.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	184.46	0.00	0.00
Manipur	43.47	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	45.00	0.00
Mizoram	30.00	35.00	63.00
Nagaland	103.14	109.95	90.00
Orissa	0.00	0.00	181.71
Pondicherry	2.32	0.00	3.64
Punjab	50.00	0.00	60.00
Rajasthan	0.00	17.26	0.00
Sikkim	5.86	3.64	6.00
Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	25.42
Tripura	40.00	71.68	40.59
Uttar Pradesh	205.00	337.77	0.00
Uttanchal	27.07	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	333.99	358.96	291.63
Jharkhand	0.00	51.97	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1195.04</b>	<b>1166.76</b>	<b>973.45</b>

**Statement-IV***Financial Achievement of Centrally sponsored Scheme—Integrated Coastal Aquaculture (BFDAs)**Central Share released*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—
2.	Goa	03.49	02.50	—
3.	Gujarat	16.73	28.50	08.26
4.	Karnataka	08.15	07.84	—
5.	Kerala	45.00	45.00	—
6.	Maharashtra	27.86	12.18	20.00
7.	Orissa	48.75	35.89	30.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—
9.	West Bengal	—	77.67	80.00
10.	A & N Island	—	—	—
	<b>Total</b>	<b>149.98</b>	<b>209.54</b>	<b>138.26</b>

**Demand of Steel in Bihar**

5462. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the demand of steel in Bihar; and  
(b) the arrangements made for supply of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) State-wise demand figures are not maintained in the Ministry. As per extant policy the requirement of steel materials of SSI units in a state are routed through their respective State SSI Corporations. The Office of the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel (DDI&S) makes Section/Size-wise allocation of steel materials for supply against their projected demand based on the availability from Main Producers.

The position of Projected demand of steel materials alongwith DCI&S allocations on account of Bihar SSIC for years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 is given below:

(In tonnes)

Year	Demand	Allocation
2001-02	11,300	5670
2002-03	10,500	4290
2003-04	10,650	1000

(April-June, 03) Quarter

[English]

**Caribjet Scam**

5463. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:  
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some high ranking officers of Air India retired as well as serving have been charge-sheeted by the Central Bureau of Investigation recently for their direct involvement in Caribjet scam causing loss to Air India to the tune of over 100 crores in wet lease deal during 1994-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry conducted in this regard; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government against the officers of Air India for their alleged involvement in the scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, CBI has registered a Regular Case (RC) on 3.2.2003 against thirteen (13) retired as well as serving officers of Air India Limited for allegedly causing a loss of Rs. 106 crores approximately. The CBI is yet to submit its report to the Government in the matter.

[Translation]

**Irrigation/Watershed Projects of Bihar**

5464. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of the on-going/proposed irrigation/watershed projects in Shekhupura, Lakhisarai, Jamui, Mungare and Begusarai districts of Bihar, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): A statement giving details of major, medium ongoing irrigation/proposed irrigation/watershed projects in Shekhupura, Lakhisarai, Jamui, Mungare and Begusarai districts of Bihar is attached as statement.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of the on-going Project	Districts benefitted	Started in Plan	Estimated cost (Rs. in Crore)		Expenditure Upto 3/2002 (Rs. in Crore)	Ultimate Potential (in th. ha)
				Original	Latest		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>A. Major Projects</b>							
1.	Upper Kiul	Mungare	V	8.07	109.93	104.78	2767
2.	Barnar Reservoir	Mungare	V	8.03	230.43	66.85	2484

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>B. Medium Projects</b>							
1.	Dhakranala Pump Phase-I	Mungare	AP 78-80	8.43	173.60	61.09	6.08
2.	Dhakranala Pump Phase-II	Mungare	VII	4.76	11.49	5.43	4.02
3.	Sindhwami	Mungare	VI	4.45	34.10	9.79	9.38

No proposed project in Shekhupura, Lakhisarai, Jamui, Mungare and Begusarai districts of Bihar have been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

In Jamui district 66 watershed projects have been sanctioned from the year 1995-96. The break-up is as under:-

Year	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	Total
Number of Projects sanctioned	29	0	0	0	0	9	14	14	66

### Golf Tourism

5465. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is vast scope to promote Golf Tourism in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the new golf-fields proposed to be developed in the State;

(c) the allocations made during the last three years;

(d) whether Gold Championship are being organised at Bangalore; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Karnataka has informed that they have the following proposals to develop Golf Courses in the State of Karnataka:

(1) Upgradation of Chickmagalur Golf Club at Chickmagalur.

(2) Development of Coorg Golf Links at Bittangala, Kodagu District.

(3) Development of Golf course at Thannirbhavi Sea Shore, Dakshina Kannada District.

(c) Nil.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

### Hazardous Mercury Waste in Thermometer Factory

5466. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Lever Limited generated hazardous mercury waste in its thermometer factory in Tamil Nadu for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against the company during the above period;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The thermometer factory of M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited (HLL) in Tamil Nadu generated 8.7 and 1.8 tonnes of mercury contaminated wastes during the year 2000 & 2001 respectively. The thermometer factory has since been closed down with effect from 8.3.2001.

(c) and (d) After detailed examination in consultation with the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and also with the Government of United States of America (USA), Government has allowed M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited to export the mercury contaminated waste to USA for recovery of mercury and final disposal of the waste as per the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal & the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989/2000. The entire expenditure in this regard will be borne by HLL. Further, HLL has also been asked to undertake remediation of the mercury contaminated site(s) in Tamil Nadu.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Construction of Dams/Barrages Across Inter-State Rivers**

5467. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of approvals accorded by the Union Government for constructing dams/barrages by the State

Governments across Inter-State rivers during the last five years;

(b) whether State Governments have the authority to construct such dams on Inter-State rivers without the approval of the Union Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of dams/barrages primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. As per the guidelines for investment clearance of dams/barrages to be constructed on any inter-State river, the detailed project report prepared by the State Governments is submitted to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal of the central appraising agencies. The central appraising agencies examine such report from inter-State angle and other aspects and if found feasible the same is submitted to the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources. After acceptance by the Advisory Committee the Planning Commission provides investment clearance for the project. Investment clearance preceded by techno-economic clearance of the central appraising agencies is a prerequisite for taking up construction of dams/barrages by the States. The details of dams/barrages across inter-State rivers approved by the Planning Commission during the last five years are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

#### **Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Name of the State	Major/ Medium	Estt. Cost (Rs. in crore)	Benefits Thousand hectare)	Date of Approval
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Pagladiya Dam Multipurpose Project	Assam	Major	542.90	54.160	03.01.2001
2.	Sidhata Irrigation Project	Himachal Pradesh	Medium	33.62	3.150	02.02.2000
3.	Upper Krishna Stage-II Multipurpose Project	Karnataka	Major	2358.86	227.00	13.12.2000
4.	Bargi Diversion Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	1101.23	376.514	06.07.1998
5.	Omkareshwar Multipurpose Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	1784.29	283.32	15.05.2001
6.	Upper Beda Irrigation Project	Madhya Pradesh	Medium	89.51	13.365	10.09.1998



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Bawanthadi Irrigation	Maharashtra	Major	161.57	57.12	16.12.1999
8.	Tillary Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	217.22	34.298	31.03.2000
9.	Lower India Irrigation Project.	Orissa	Major	211.70	38.87	04.02.1999
10.	Lower Suktel	Orissa	Major	217.13	29.845	25.06.1999
11.	Kanupur Irrigation Project	Orissa	Major	428.32	47.709	16.09.2002
12.	Ravi Project Unit-I {Ranjit Sagar (Thein) dam with Shahpurkandi dam project and UBDC Hydel project Stage-II} -Multipurpose	Punjab	Major	5065.48	—	05.11.2001
13.	Bethli Irrigation	Rajasthan	Medium	13.07	4.316	26.10.1998
14.	Chauli Irrigation	Rajasthan	Medium	28.87	8.963	26.10.1998

**Unclaimed Funds****Statement**

5468. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits of EPF and the total amount of unclaimed funds reported as on December 31, 2002; State-wise.

(b) the criteria for investment of this funds;

(c) whether investment is made as per decision of Board of Trustees of EPF or as per Government directions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) The total deposit of Employee's Provident Fund was 60874.99 crores as on 31.12.2002. The amount lying in Unclaimed Fund is Rs. 381.91 crore as per the audited Balance Sheet as on 31.3.2002. The state-wise detail is enclosed as statement.

(b) to (d) Investment are being made, by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, in accordance with the investment pattern notified by the Government dated 19.06.1998.

*Unclaimed Deposit Account*

S.No.	Name of State/ Region	Balance as on 31.3.2002
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,678,321,553.84
2.	Bihar	640,455.03
3.	Chhattisgarh	0.00
4.	Delhi	66,608,740.59
5.	Goa	11,797,861.85
6.	Gujarat	117,248,910.31
7.	Haryana	61,879,817.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	503,214.65
10.	Karnataka	117,032,701.00
11.	Kerala	1,755,012.70
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,029,590.24
13.	Maharashtra	235,186,890.35
14.	N.E. Region	4,297,114.58
15.	Orissa	1,142,242.08

1	2	3
16.	Punjab	136,864,885.37
17.	Rajasthan	11,948,673.64
18.	Tamil Nadu	388,488,085.12
19.	Uttaranchal	26,790,140.43
20.	Uttar Pradesh	107,160,561.73
21.	West Bengal	848,438,510.60
Total		3,819,131,961.71

#### Night Landing Facility at Calicut Airport

5469. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2101 dated August 06, 2001 and state:

(a) the reasons for delay in putting the night landing facilities at Calicut airport into operation;

(b) whether additional lights have since been procured;

(c) if not, the present status in this respect;

(d) by when the night landing facilities at the airport are likely to be put into operation; and

(e) the approximate cost involved in providing the facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has to provide additional obstruction lights and runway lead-in-lights for 28 approach after obtaining permission from the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for night operations at Calicut airport. The delay was mainly due to surveying of approach terrain, acquisition of land and global tendering process for lead-in-light system.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Order for supply and installation, testing and commissioning of additional lights have already been issued in December and February, 2002.

(d) The additional facilities are planned to be commissioned by August, 2003. Thereafter, DGCA would be approached for permission for night operations.

(e) Rs. 217 lakhs approximately.

#### Marine Fisheries

5470. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued advertisements inviting private entrepreneurs to come up with proposals for entering the marine fisheries line;

(b) if so, the details of this advertisement alongwith the number of applications received; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage such fishing activity to exploit marine resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government have issued an executive order on 1st November, 2002 fixing up guidelines for operation of deep sea fishing vessels in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone owned by Indian companies, which have at least 51% Indian equity.

(b) and (c) The executive order along with guidelines is enclosed as statement.

#### Statement

F.No. 21005/1/2001-FY (Ind)

Government of India

Ministry of Agriculture

Department of Animal Husbandary & Dairying

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Dated the 1st November, 2002

#### Order

The Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, being the nodal Department for developing fisheries in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) vide Entry 57 list 1 of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution in exercise of the powers conferred orders here under the new Guidelines for conduct of fishing operation in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. The guidelines will be binding on all deep sea fishing vessels operating in the Indian EEZ from the date of issue of this order.

Any violation of the guidelines by the deep sea fishing vessels would be viewed seriously and penalty/punishment as deemed fit would be imposed on the defaulter.

(D.S. Negi)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

**Distribution:**

- (i) Secretaries incharge of Fisheries of all castal States/UTs.
- (ii) Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
- (iii) Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
- (iv) Secretary, Ministry of Home affairs.
- (v) Secretary, Ministry of Shipping.
- (vi) Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.
- (vii) Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice & CA.
- (viii) Secretary, Ministry of Communications.
- (ix) Secretary, Deptt. of Ocean Development.
- (x) Directorate General of Foreign Trade.
- (xi) Director General, Coast Guards.
- (xii) Director General Shipping.
- (xiii) Chairman, Central Board of Excise & Customs.
- (xiv) Chairman, MPEDA.
- (xv) DDG, ICAR.
- (xvi) DG, FSI
- (xvii) President, Association of Indian Fisheries Industries.
- (xviii) Secretary, Deep Sea Fishing Industries Association.
- (xix) All deep sea fishing companies.
- (xx) All Joint venture companies.

**GUIDELINES FOR FISHING OPERATIONS IN INDIAN  
EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE**

**Defintions**

S.No.	Item	Definitions
1	2	3
1.	Deep Sea Fishing	Fishing activities beyond 12 nautical miles from the shore line (Territorial waters)
2.	Deep Sea Fishing Vessels	Fishing vessels of 20 meter over all length and above.
3.	Operator	Any Indian entrepreneur, partnership, Private Ltd. company, Public Ltd. company and Corporation.

1	2	3
4.	EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone of India which is upto 200 nautical miles from the shore line and beyond & adjacent territorial water which comes under the jurisdiction of Union Government.
5.	CCRF	The code of conduct for responsible fisheries circulated by the FAO of the United Nations.

**Preamble**

A recent revalidation of marine fisheries potential has shown that the fishing pressure on the stock in near shore waters has gone up considerably and signs of over exploitation in respect of more number of species is becoming increasingly evident. The potential available in the EEZ is exploited only by about 70% where the possibility of putting in extra effort exists.

2. As the Indian deep sea fishing industry has not been fully equipped in terms of technology and finance, to take up this venture by itself, the Government of India had been taking several steps in the past to finance deep sea fishing ventures, to bring in appropriate technologies and to build trained technical manpower etc. As part of these efforts several joint venture initiatives and Indian owned deep-sea fishing ventures have come up.

3. Besides this the need for ensuring sustainability in the operation of these deep sea vessel, it has to be ensured that their operations do not collide with the interest of other stake-holders. Compliance of CCRF and other such international rules and regulations in the management of fish stock in the EEZ has also to be ensured by these vessels.

4. In order to satisfy the various requirements as above and to ensure proper conduct of fishing operations in the EEZ by all vessels flying Indian flag to the guidelines are notified as here under. These guidelines become effective from the date of issue and would cover the operations of the 200 shrimpers already operating in Indian waters.

**Broad Guidelines for operation of Indian Deep Sea Fishing Vessels in Indian EEZ**

Permission in writing (LOP) is required from the nodal Ministry for operating any fishing vessel in Indian EEZ.

Taking into consideration the present level of exploitation, presently permission is accorded only for the following fishing methods:

- (a) Long Lining for tuna;
- (b) Tuna Purse Seining.
- (c) Squid jigging and squid hand lining.
- (d) Mid-water/pelagic trawling.
- (e) Trap Fishing.

2. The operation of Indian deep sea fishing vessels will be governed by the executive orders issued/to be issued from time to time.

3. The area of operation of the deep sea fishing vessels will be regulated by the instructions/orders issued by the GOI from time to time.

4. Fishing would not be allowed between the coast line and the line joining the following points:

**Off Orissa, West Bengal Coast**

- (i) 19°20' N-85°30'E
- (ii) 20°-86°56'E
- (iii) 20°42' N-88°E
- (iv) 21°8' N-89°7'E
- (v) 21°16' N-89°14'E

**Off Maharashtra and Gujarat Coast line**

- (i) 22°54' N-67° 33E
- (ii) 21°33' N-68° 56 E
- (iii) 19°2' N-72° E
- (iv) 18°33'N-72° E
- (v) 18°N-72°31E

**Off Kerala and Tamil Nadu Coast line**

- (i) 7°45' N-77° E
- (ii) 7°45' N -78° E
- (iii) 7°30' N-78° E
- (iv) 7°30' N-77° E

5. Fishing will be permitted only beyond 24 nautical miles between the Nizampatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Pradweep Port (Orissa).

6. For proper monitoring of the operations of Indian deep sea fishing vessels and sea safety point of view, it is mandatory for all deep sea fishing vessel operators to report their vessels' position, intended course and speed and area of operation with latitude and longitude to Coast Guard at 0800 hrs. daily or any other time specified by the authority.
7. Date of commencement of voyage likely period together with crew lists should be furnished to Coast Guard and Fishery Survey of India, Mumbai before each sailing. Intimation on completion of each voyage shall also be furnished to these agencies on return.
8. Mid-sea transfer of fish catch and bunkering will be governed by Reserve Bank of India regulations in this regard.
9. The operator shall furnish an undertaking (Annexure-B) to the effect that (a) they will not resort to any type of fishing other than what has been permitted to them (b) the company will not exploit any endangered species of marine turtles, mammals and fish species and the vessel will not resort to Bottom Trawling/Pair Trawling/ Bull Trawling and (c) will not violate the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).
10. The operator should take clearance from the Government for assignment of foreign crew. Details in respect of each foreign crew (name, father's name, passport no., nationality and designation) should be submitted to this Ministry at least 2 weeks ahead of their assignment.
11. The letter of permission should not be transferred to any other company or individual unless specifically approved by the Government.
12. The vessel should engage in no activity other than fishing in the Indian EEZ and should confine to the area demarcated for their operation and should not encroach into areas demarcated for mechanised and traditional fishing craft as prescribed by the Central/State/UT Government through Marine Fishing Regulation Acts (MFRAs) the areas mentioned in clause No. 3 hereinabove. The vessels will not be allowed to fish in Indian EEZ at any particular coast at any particular time during such ban periods as notified by the Government from time to time.
13. All the vessels should be fitted with INMARSAT 'C' or comparable terminal with GPS facility as

prescribed by the Government. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) shall be set up by each vessel within the period to be stipulated by the Govt. of India.

14. The base port for operation of vessel would be any one on east coast and one on the west coast.
15. Government reserves the right to inspect the vessel and machinery and equipments on the vessel and shore based processing plants of the company at any time without notice.
16. The operator should submit the voyage report in the prescribed format (as at Annexure 'A') to Fishery Survey of India, Mumbai within 15 days from the date of completion of each voyage.
17. The vessel at any time, should not engage in fishing within the territorial waters of India.
18. Any change in foreign crew is to be reported to the Coast Guard Headquarters.
19. The operator should give prior intimation to this Ministry to leave the Indian EEZ/to any foreign port.
20. In addition to these guidelines any executive orders and regulatory measures notified by the Union/State Governments regarding the fishing operations in the Indian waters from time to time would be binding on these vessels.
21. Government reserves the right to impose any other conditions from time to time. Penalty will be levied for any violation, which shall be decided by the Government. Besides, the letter of permission is also liable to be cancelled without notice if any one or more of these conditions are not followed or violated and shall have the right to seize the vessel.

**Annexure A-1**

*Format for submission of Voyage Data by Indian owned Registered Deep Sea Fishing Vessels*

1. Name & address of the company/operator
2. Certificate of Incorporation number, date and place
3. Name of the fishing vessel, its registration number and port of registry
4. Type of fishing proposed.

5. Major specifications:
  - (a) Length:
  - (b) Breadth:
  - (c) HP of Engine:
  - (d) Gross Tonnage:
  - (e) Net Tonnage:
  - (f) Fish hold capacity:
  - (g) Fuel oil capacity:
  - (h) Year of built:
6. Total crew strength
  - (a) Foreign nationals (no.)
  - (b) Indian nationals (no.)

**Annexure A-2**

*Format for submission of Voyage Data by Indian owned Registered Deep Sea Fishing Vessels*

1. Name & address of the company/operator
2. Certificate of Incorporation number, date and place
3. Name of the fishing vessel, its registration number and port of registry
4. Type of fishing proposed.
5. Major specifications:
  - (i) Length:
  - (j) Breadth:
  - (k) HP of Engine:
  - (l) Gross Tonnage:
  - (m) Net Tonnage:
  - (n) Fish hold capacity:
  - (o) Fuel oil capacity:
  - (p) Year of built:
6. Total crew strength
  - (a) Foreign nationals (no.)
  - (b) Indian nationals (no.)

**Annexure A-1**

*Details of Fishing (Mid-water Trawling/Trap Fishing)*

Gear specification: Type of net.....

Head rope length (m) .....

Codend mesh size (mm) .....

Date										
Haul No.										
Position : Lat. Long.										
Depth (m)										
Time : End shooting Start hauling										
Duration of haul (hrs.)										
Speed (knots)										
Total catch (kg)										
Species composition										
Shark										
Rays										
Barracuda										
Ribbon fish										
Pomfrets										
Seer fish										
Yellowfin tuna										
Skipjack tuna										
Little tuna										
Frigate mackerel										
Other tunas										
Mackerel										
Horse mackerel										
Carangids										
Oil sardine										
Lesser sardines										
Anchovy										
Leiognathids										
Other fishes										
*Deep sea lobsters										

\*for trap fishing please specify species

Signature  
Name of the company

**Annexure A-2**

*Fishing Operation Details (Tuna Longlining)*

Vessel Name .....

Specification of gear .....

OAL..... GRT.....

Bait used .....

Duration of voyage.....

Date	Hooks operated	Area of operation	Total catch	Catch composition (Kg)								Remarks
				YFT	BET	SKJ	MAR	SWO	SAI	SHK	OTH	

Signature  
Name of the venture company

**Annexure-B**

Affidavit on Rs. 10/- stamp paper

**Undertaking**

We, M/s.....hereby undertake that our permitted vessel (s) will not indulge in shrimping wherever applicable, pair trawling (Bull Trawling), oceanographic research and fishing of endangered species as notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. We also undertake that our vessel(s) will operate only for type of fishing permitted in the letter of permission (LOP) and not for any other type of fishing.

In the case of violation of above as well as any terms and conditions of the letter of permission, Government will have all the rights to impose penalty and seize our vessel(s) and cancel the letter of permission.

Deponent  
(with stamp)

(to be attested by Public Notary)

[Translation]

**Steel Development Fund**

5471 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds deposited in the Steel Development Fund during the last two years;

(b) the target fixed in this regard;

(c) whether the target has been achieved;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of utilization of the funds;

(f) whether this fund has been utilized for employment generation; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) The break up of the amount paid by the main producers viz. SAIL and TISCO (without considering any adjustments) during the last two financial years is as follows:

	2001-2002	2002-2003	Total (in Rs. crs.)
SAIL	13.00	0.00	13.00
TISCO	9.00	10.00	19.00

(b) Considering the position of liquidity of the Main Producers, it has been decided in the 38th SDF Managing Committee that SAIL & TISCO will pay Rs. 45.00 crores and Rs. 12.00 crores respectively, in cash, during a financial year, without considering any adjustment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Main Producers have cited acute financial crunch as the main problem in paying SDF dues in cash.

(e) As per the decision of the Government, the existing corpus of the SDF which is in the form of loans the Main Producers may continue to be recycled to them.

The interest proceeds on these loans are to be utilised for the following purposes:

- (i) Cash Award for Prime Minister's Trophy.
- (ii) Reimbursement of SSIC Rebate Claims of the Main Producers (TISCO, RINL & IISCO).
- (iii) Research & Development Expenditure under the aegis of the Empowered Committee of Ministry of Steel.
- (iv) Expenditure for Economic Research Unit of JPC.
- (v) Environment and pollution control in the iron and steel sector.
- (vi) Export Promotion and market development.
- (f) No, Sir.
- (g) Not applicable in view of (f) above.

[English]

**Inclusion of Employees' Nominees in EPF Trustee Board**

5472. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for inclusion of employees' nominees in the E.P.F. Board of Trustees;

(b) the names of present members of the Board;

(c) whether there is any employees; nominee whose name was recommended by Centre of India Trade Unions; and



(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL):

(a) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund is constituted as per the provisions of Section 5A of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and based on the verified membership of employees in recognized employees organisations.

(b) A copy of the Notification, mentioning the names of the present members, is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of six employees organizations, requested to provide a panel of names for finalizing the nominees on the Central Board of Trustees, four organizations sent the panel of names and eight of their representatives (two from each organisation) have been nominated. However, the panel of names have not been received from CITU and AITUC and they have again been requested to provide the same.

#### **Statement**

#### MINISTRY OF LABOUR

#### NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 13th March, 2003

S.O. 295 (E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 5-A of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 (19 of 1952) the Central Government hereby appoints, with effect from the date of publication of this notification in the Gazette of India, the following persons to the Central Board of Trustees constituted under the said Act, in place of persons appointed vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour S.O. 321 (E) dated the 9th April, 1997 published in the Part II Section 3 (ii) of the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 10th April, 1997 namely:—

#### **Chairman**

(a) *Appointed under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 5-A.*

1. Minister for Labour, Government of India, New Delhi.

#### **Vice-Chairman**

(b) *Appointed under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 5-A.*

2. Minister of State for Labour, Government of India, New Delhi.

#### **Members**

(c) *Representatives of the Central Government under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 5-A.*

3. Secretary to the Government of India.  
Ministry of Labour,  
Shram Shakti Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110 001.
4. Additional Secretary to the Government of India  
Ministry of Labour  
Shram Shakti Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110 001.
5. Representative from the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.
6. Joint Secretary to the Government of India,  
Ministry of Labour (Social Security Division),  
Shram Shakti Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110 001.
7. Financial Advisor  
Ministry of Labour,  
Shram Shakti Bhawan,  
New Delhi-110 001.

(d) *Representatives of State Governments under clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 5A.*

#### **State Government Representatives**

8. Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh  
Labour & Employment Department, Hyderabad-500 002.
9. Secretary to the Government of Delhi.  
Labour Department,  
Delhi.
10. Secretary to the Government of Bihar.  
Department of Labour & Employment,  
New Secretariat,  
Patna-800 015.

11. Secretary to the Government of Gujarat.  
Labour & Employment Department,  
Gandhi Nagar,  
Ahmedabad.
12. Commissioner & Secretary to the Government  
of Haryana  
Haryana Civil Secretariat,  
Chandigarh-160 001.
13. Secretary to the Government of Karnataka  
Labour Department,  
M.S. Building,  
Bangalore-560 001.
14. Secretary to the Government of Jharkhand  
Labour Department,  
Ranchi.
15. Secretary to the Government of Madhya Pradesh  
Labour Department,  
Bhopal-462 004.
16. Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra  
Industry, Labour & Energy Department,  
Mumbai-462 032.
17. Secretary to the Government of Uttranchal  
Labour & Employment Department,  
Dehradun, Uttranchal
18. Secretary to the Government of Chhattisgarh  
Labour & Employment Department,  
Raipur
19. Commissioner & Secretary to the Government  
of Rajasthan,  
Labour & Employment Department,  
Jaipur-302 001.
20. Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu  
Labour & Employment Department,  
Chennai.
21. Secretary to the Government of Uttar Pradesh  
Labour Department,  
"Bapoo Bhawan",  
Lucknow-226 001.
22. Secretary to the Government of West Bengal  
Labour Department,  
Writers Building,  
Kolkata-700 001.
- (e) *Representatives of employers under clause (d) of  
sub-section (1) of section 5A.*
23. Shri Ram Tameja  
Employer Federation of India
24. Shri J.P. Chaudhary  
All India Organization of Employers
25. Shri Ravi Vig  
PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry
26. Shri P. Rajendran  
Confederation of India Industry
27. Shri R.K. Somani  
ASSOCHAM
28. Shri V.P. Chopra  
FASII
29. Shri Virender Uppal  
Apparel Export Promotion Council
30. Shri Subir Raha  
Charman, SCOPE
31. To be notified later.
32. To be notified later.
- (f) *Representatives of employees under clause (e) of  
sub-section (1) of Section 5A.*
33. Shri Hansmukh Bhai Dave  
Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh.
34. Shri A. Venkataram  
Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh
35. Shri B.N. Rai  
Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh
36. Shri G. Sanjeeva Reddy  
Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC)
37. Shri Ashok Singh  
INTUC
38. Shri Nirmal Ghosh  
INTUC
39. Shri A.D. Nagpal  
Hind Mazdoor Sabha
40. Shri Sankar Saha  
United Trade Union Congress (LS)
41. To be notified later
42. To be notified later

(g) *Appointed under clause (aa) of sub-section (1) of section 5A.*

43. Central Provident Fund Commissioner—Ex officio Member

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation  
Head office, Bhavishya Nidhi Bhawan  
14-Bhikaji Cama Place  
New Delhi-110 066.

[F.No. V-20012/1/2001-SS-II]  
D.S. POONIA. Jt. Secy.

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we gave notice for adjournment motion and you assured on Friday that we would be given opportunity on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the papers be laid first, thereafter I would give you the opportunity.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir. Air-India pilots are on strike.

MR. SPEAKER: You are acquainted with the procedure. Let the papers be laid first.

12.00 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited and the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7553/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions)-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the MSTC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

(v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Sponge Iron India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7554/03]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the table the following papers:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7555/03]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7556/03]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Uttar Pradesh State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) Annual Report of the Uttar Pradesh State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7557/03]

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Seeds Corporation Limited and the Department of Agricultural Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7558/03]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7559/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the table the following papers:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7560/03]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Airlines Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Airlines Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the Comments of Auditor on Accounts of the Indian Airlines Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7561/03]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): On behalf of Shri Dilip Singh Judev, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1257(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 2002 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 728(E) dated the 21st July, 1987 issued under sections 12 and 13 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7562/03]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2001-2002.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7563/03]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7564/03]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 2001-2002.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7565/03]

12.03 hrs.

## MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following three messages received from the Secretary-

General of Rajya Sabha:

I. "I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Monday, the 3rd March, 2003 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on Public Accounts:-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha, to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2003 and ending on the 30th April, 2004 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, even Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. "I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above Motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:-

1. Shri Santosh Bagrodia
2. Shri K. Rahman Khan
3. Dr. Alladi P. Rajkumar
4. Shri C.P. Thirunavukkarasu
5. Shri Bachani Lekhraj
6. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
7. Shri Prasanta Chatterjee."

II. "I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Monday, the 3rd March, 2003 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on Public Undertakings:-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha, to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2003 and ending on the 30th April, 2004 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. "I am further to information the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above Motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:-

1. Shri Kalraj Mishra

2. Shri Lalitbhai Mehta
3. Shrimati Ambika Soni
4. Shri Jibon Roy
5. Shri Suresh Kalmadi
6. Shri Satish Pradhan
7. Shri K. Kalavenkata Rao."

III. "I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Monday, the 3rd March, 2003 adopted the following Motion in regard to the Committee on the Welfare of scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:-

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term beginning on the 1st May, 2003 and ending on the 30th April, 2004 and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, ten Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. "I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the Motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:-

- 1 Prof. R.B.S. Varma
2. Shri Nana Deshmukh
3. Shri Gandhi Azad
4. Shri Birbhadra Singh
5. Shri V.V. Raghavan
6. Dr. Faguni Ram
7. Shri Raju Parmar
8. Shri Sukhdev Singh Libra
9. Shri Anil Kumar
10. Shri R. Kamaraj."

12.03<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

### **Eighth to Tenth Reports**

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi

and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

- (1) Eighth Report on 'Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.—Avoidable Expenditure due to Creation of Excessive Handling Capacity';
- (2) Ninth Report on 'Air India Ltd.—Undue favour to General Sales Agent'; and
- (3) Tenth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2001-2002) on 'Industrial Development Bank of India.'

12.04 hrs.

## MOTION RE: JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: (Sagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following:-

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do elect one member of Rajya Sabha, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Sangh Priya Gautam, Member, Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the member so elected by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do elect one member of Rajya Sabha, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Sangh Priya Gautam, Member, Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the member so elected by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

*The motion was adopted.*

12.04<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

## ANNOUNCEMENT RE: UNVEILING OF STATUES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as you are aware, a function to unveil the statues of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Mahatma Basaveshwara will be held today (28.4.2003) at 1830 hours in the Parliament House Complex. Hon. President has kindly consented to unveil the statues.

The House may adjourn at 6.00 p.m. today to facilitate members' participation in the function.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we go to Zero Hour.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: (Maharajganj, UP): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I gave notice for adjournment motion on Friday and you promised me that I would be given an opportunity to speak on it during Zero Hour on Monday.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, our subject is very important, so we should be given an opportunity to speak first.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): His subject matter is related to 'Lathi'.

MR. SPEAKER: Vijay Kumar ji, I had promised to provide Shri Akhilesh Singh the opportunity to speak first today, that is why I am giving him the chance to speak first.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon. Speaker Sir, three farmers were killed due to the firing of the police in Munderva of UP. I raised this issue in this House through the adjournment motion. The statement given by the Central Government in the House on the basis of the statement made by the State-Government referred to death of only one farmer. I brought it to your notice that the House had been misled and cheated on the issue of death of three farmers. When I raised the matter repeatedly, The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. Miss, Mayawati got enraged with me. After that when the issue of corruption under MPLADS in Uttar Pradesh with Chief Minister Ms. Mayawati shown as demanding share in that

corruption was taken up. I raised that issue in this House through adjournment motion and also handed over the relevant tape to you. Sir later Mayawatiji threatened us publicly through newspapers and media that all those speaking against her would be brought to book and cases were filed in Hajratganj police station of the State capital Lucknow against the person who handed over the tape to the hon. Governor of Uttar Pradesh. Officers were directed to register the case against me also. But when the officers told her that this matter related to Lok Sabha which only is competent to take action on this, she could not proceed further.

Sir, then the notorious mafia don of UP Mukhtiyar Ansari who had committed the gruesome murder of the National Treasurer of the VHP Shri Nand Kishan Rungta and Criminal Minister of UP Shri Amarmani Tripathi, who was discussed by the Rajnath Singh Government in a child kidnapping case, were entrusted the responsibility of killing me and my brother, Mukhtiyar Ansari enjoys open patronage of the UP Government, and this is my allegation. ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, I would like to place before you the decision of Markandaya Katzu.

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what kind of an allegation he is making. ...(*Interruptions*) Why would Hon. Chief Minister try to get him murdered. ...(*Interruptions*) Will such baseless utterance be made on the floor of Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: You sit down, he has given notice.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir sometimes he talks of the tape and sometimes he talks of the decisions, what indeed is he trying to say?

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I want to say that the UP Chief Minister Mayawatiji has given open protection to the criminal Minister Shri Amarmani Tripathi for eliminating me and my brother. Only four days ago the Allahabad High Court amended a decision against him and ordered a fine of Rs. One lakh against him. Despite this he is holding his office. Mukhtiyar Ansari who is getting open patronage and he is visiting the DGP office directly from jail. Yesterday, he pointed his revolver on the jailer of the district jail. ...(*Interruptions*) He was directed to kill me and my younger brother Kunwar Kaushal Singh by the UP Chief Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have written to the hon. Home Minister in the respect. He will provide security to you.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, the UP Chief Minister is conspiring to kill me and my brother with a sense of revenge and patronizing the criminal Minister.

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

Mafia don Mukhtiyar Ansari is getting open patronage. ...*(Interruptions)* The criminal who dared to point his revolver or the jailer is being patronized. So I want that this House takes cognizance of it that there is a threat to my life .. and my brother. So we want our protection.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the 'Tel Pilawan' and Lathi Chalawon rally is being organised in Bihar on 30 April. The slogan of this rally is "BJP Bhagawan and Bush Bhagawan". There was a TV serial with a character named Ram Khilawan. The rallies organised by him in Bihar have made the condition of the state worse today. The business men there have all wound up their business and fled. Some shops had cantars of mustered oil which were lifted by the men of Ram Khilawan and they are rubbing the same oil into their lathies to harden them. All the schools and institutions of Bihar have been closed. The parents afraid to send their kids to schools for fear of their being kidnapped. They are extorting money forcibly in the name of rally. Buses are stopped on the way and women and children are asked to get down and these buses are sent to the residences of Ministers and MLAs. The Government there has the support of the Congress. This tel pilawan and Lathi Chalawon rally. ...*(Interruptions)* Bihar's condition has gone from bad to worse. ...*(Interruptions)* A memorandum in this regard has been given to the hon. Governor in which it has been demanded that this rally should be banned. Through you, I would like to submit to the Government of India that lakhs of people are gathering in the Gandhi Maidan of Patna with lathies in their hands. The atmosphere of Bihar is totally violated. We want the Central Government to intervene in this regard. The Congress people are making hue and cry, if you the Congress do not approve of it then why are you supporting the Bihar Government. You are supporting the 'Tel Pilawan ... Lathi Chalawon' rally, and you will have to pace the consequences of it. This is what I want to drive home to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the state of affairs is extremely critical in Bihar. There is jungle raj in Bihar and donation is being forcibly collected from lakhs of people. All the buses there have been called to serve the purpose of the rally there. Schools have been closed. Not only private but even the Government offices have been closed. People are being asked to wield lathies and gather there. Civil war like situation is being created there on the 30th. If there would not be any support from Congress then Soniaji is sitting here in the House. She may tell us about her party policy in this regard. What the Congress Party is doing as regards the 'Tel-Pilawan-Lathi-Chalawon' rally which is

being organised and the jungle raj which is going on there? If the Congress party has any objection then Soniaji may clear her party's stance in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P. Mohan.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no debate on the Bihar situation.

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Sir, for the second consecutive year now the situation in the Cauvery Delta region in Tamil Nadu is bad and is going through a drought hit condition. Last year the situation was worse severely affecting the farmers and paddy cultivation in the Cauvery basin districts especially the delta farmers. We also had death due to hunger in the Cauvery delta.

Sir, south-west monsoon failed last year and the predictions for the current year by the meteorologists is also not promising. They predict a possible monsoon failure. Already Tamil Nadu especially the Cauvery delta districts in Thanjavur region have suffered enough due to withering crops and failed cultivation. So there is a need to take urgent steps to evolve a sharing formula for Cauvery riparian States. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have 22 topics in front of me during Zero Hour I want to allow every. Bihar's subject is over.

...*(Interruptions)\*\**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing on the Bihar situation should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\*\**

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Cauvery River Authority meeting as insisted upon by both the Tribunal and the Supreme Court has not been convened for a long time now. Before it could become too late, unlike last year. Cauvery River Authority meeting must be convened by the Prime Minister at the earliest. I understand that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also written to the Centre in this regard. In order to ensure Tamil Nadu's share of water in Cauvery for release in Mettur Dam before the first week of June, Centre must act fast. I urge upon the Union Government to convene the CRA meeting to evolve a viable formula in time taking stock of the entire situation to ensure release of water from Mettur Dam in the first week of June.

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

\*\*Not recorded.



SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Sir, I also associate with him.

MR. SPEAKER: Your name will be associated.

12.15 hrs.

## SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS

### (i) **Re.: Implementation of Right to Education**

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur): Sir, I am raising a very important issue. Our Constitution is amended to include right to education and when the Amendment Bill was discussed on the floor of the House, certain points were raised by the Members.

One of the points raised was that the article 45 of the Constitution says that right to education should be made available to the children in the age group of 0-14. A case was taken to the Supreme Court by one Shri Unnikrishnan. In that case also, the Supreme Court had said that right to education should be given. That means, the children in the age group of 0-14 should be provided with right to education.

When this matter was raised on the floor of the House, the Minister said that he would make a law to see that right to education is implemented and enforced and becomes a reality. He also said that in the law, he would provide that the children in the age group of 0-6 are also taken care of. He also said that the family members of the child should also be responsible, and the society also should be responsible. Since that assurance was given on the floor of the House, nearly one year has passed, and we are waiting to see the kind of law which will be made by the Government to fulfil these assurances and to see that real right to education is given to the children.

We are seeking the information from The Government as to what the Government has done in this respect. If the Government has done something, we would like to see as to when the Bill will come before this House and when the Bill will be passed. We seek this kind of information from the Government. There is no other device which could have been used to extract this information within the available time, so we are raising this issue. We expect the Government to appropriately respond to the point which I have made on behalf of our Party and all other parties.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Will the Government respond to this?

MR. SPEAKER: The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. Since it is an important issue, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister may bring it to the notice of the Minister concerned.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I can repeat what I have said for the advantage of the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: She is responding.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Right to education Amendment was made in the constitution and thereafter the Government had given the assurance of bringing the Bill and one year has passed since. The Bill is necessary for the implementation of right to education. Simultaneously, children between the age group of 0-6 years are also to be kept in mind. We expect the Government to respond in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, I will speak to the Minister of Human Resource Development in this regard and also apprise him of the submissions made by hon. Shivraj Patil ji on behalf of all other parties in this regard. And I will apprise the House about the plans of the Minister that when he intends to bring a Bill to this effect in the House.

12.19 hrs.

### (ii) **Re.: Non-operation of Flights by certain Sections of pilots of Air India to SARS affected regions resulting in their suspension and its subsequent effect on operation of flights.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Air India has suspended its 27 pilots. More than two dozens countries across the globe are affected by SARS and India is also being affected slowly by this. Every day one or more case get identified. Yesterday, one case was identified in Kolkata. Due to this reason, the pilot, were to go on strike but 27 pilots were suspended. The hon. Minister of the department is present here. He knows better that Air India and Indian Air Lines suffered a loss to the tune of crores of rupees during the month of April. The Pilots wanted to visit the hon. Minister. I would like to now whether any discussion, before their suspension

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

was held with pilots and whether it was ensured that their health will be fully protected. The Government acted carelessly in this regard. Our citizens want to come back from gulf countries. In this situation if the strike goes on and the pilots are suspended the matter becomes very serious. My opinion is that if the government had discussed with pilots and taken them into confidence then this kind of situation could have been avoided.

The effects of SARS on the country is continuously increasing. SARS psychologically affected the pilots that their health should be got examined, get protected and government should guarantee that their health will be fully protected while on flight. I would like to know from government, what was discussed with the pilot and whether they were taken into confidence. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I possess all your notices. If all of you cooperate, chance will be given to each who has moved notice. I assuants importance to each and every notice.

[*English*]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, this is not just the concern of the pilots, this is the concern of the entire country. The Air India pilots are holding the passengers and the nation to ransom. Pilots of no other international airlines have resorted to this tactics. The pilots say that they are concerned. They are demanding that health certificates be issued to their cabin crew and cockpit crew Hundreds of passengers are travelling in those aeroplanes. Why are the pilots not insisting on this in the case of passengers? Why are they insisting on this in the case of cabin crew? The demand being made by the pilots of Air India is unreasonable, uncalled for and unsympathetic. Their act is condemnable.

They also included Kuwait in this. We all know the difficulty with regard to Kuwait. People are now going back to Kuwait in big numbers. Indian Airlines is operating its flights on its Kuwait sector. Air India pilots say that they are afraid of SARS. Is it only confined to Air India pilots? They have been given all the benefits, all allowances and all consideration. However, they are doing a great disservice to the people of this country. The air passengers are in great difficulty. I congratulate the Government for taking prompt action. Action should continue. They should either join the service or they should be sacked. No sympathy should be shown to these people. They are holding the country to ransom and that should not be allowed.

I congratulate the Minister for stern and prompt action and request him to take further action if necessary and also solve the problems of the people. I would also request the hon. Minister to arrange more Indian Airlines aircraft for passengers to fly to Kuwait and to those countries.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my notice is also on this subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice is not on this subject but on different subject. There is no notice, except of Shri E. Ahmed, on this subject.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister will react now.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Katariya, please have your seat. A topic is being discussed and I have already told you that permission will be given to you after that.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way, the pilots have gone on strike is a very serious matter. I congratulate Shri Shahnawaz for the action taken by him against the pilots which is perfectly right. Pilots are being paid salaries upto Rs. 5 lakhs each but they are trying to escape from their responsibility. If this feeling grows in the country's Army, then what will happen to the country? I want to make submission to the Government that the pilots. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are carrying the same views as the minister is.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the pilots would feel safe only then they can perform their duty. ...*(Interruptions)* They are talking rubbish. ...*(Interruptions)* They do not have any work. A pilot can operate the flight only if he feels safe. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has a right to speak out his mind.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Members of the Samajwadi Party lose their temper.

MR. SPEAKER: It seems that the opposition is not unanimous on this issue.

[*English*]

Mr. Minister, would you like to react on this issue?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me finish my speech. If the Members object, should I sit down. First let me speak, thereafter you can ask the Minister to reach. Will Sumanji conduct the proceedings of this House?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, 50 percent of flights bound for the gulf countries have been cancelled. People are facing problems. People have been stranded at the airports for two to three days. The Government employees who are drawing Rs. 5 lakh as salaries cannot be allowed to take the decision as to where they should go or where they should not go. We have extended our issue-based support. This does not mean that we cannot criticise the Government. If any issue concerns the national interest and the members of the Samajwadi Party blindly oppose that, we will not keep quiet. I would like to urge upon the Government that it should take action against the pilots and they should be issued warnings and they should be asked to resume their duty. Nobody is getting as much fat salary as much fat salary as they are, in the entire world. ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, salary has got no significance when the life of someone is at risk. They will operate the flight only when they feel safe. This issue concerns with their lives. Salary has no significance. ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: That is not related to life. If an army man says that he will not go to fight as this concerns his life. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rashid Alvi, please sit down now. I have called the hon. Minister to make a brief statement in this regard.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RASHID ALVI: This is my only request that these flights should be resumed and it need be, private pilots should be engaged for the purpose.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): Sir, the other day we had a

discussion in this House, during the winter, when the flights used to be late, the House was told that now CAT-3 had been installed. But the pilots were not using the services of the CAT-3. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that time I had sought your protection and told the House that pilots would be imparted training to enable them to use the services of the CAT-3. We have here two type of executive pilots. Some are executive, they constitute the half of the total executives and the remaining half of executives belong to the India Pilot's Guild.

All the pilots have undergone the training. But when we asked the pilots of the Indian Pilot's Guild to undergo the training, they demanded Rs. 75,000 extra per pilot. We said that was not possible. Air India has started earning profit now after a gap of six years and their demand would have cost Rs. 35 crore. Thereafter the Iraq war started. They were waiting for the opportunity when the Government would be in the dock, they would deceive the Government at the eleventh hour and would get their demands met as the Air India has not taken any action against any pilot since 1974 till date. And the action has been taken for the first time after 1974.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the war in Iraq was going on and the day Iraq war came to an end, they gave us a notice that they would not operate flights to Kuwait. There is no danger of Saddam Husain in Kuwait. The Hon. Member has raised the issue of life, that is very important. ...(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: There had never been any danger of Saddam Hussain. Why are you talking about the danger of Saddam Hussain?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they said that they would not fly to Kuwait. No pilot of any airline of the world or for that matter any airline refused to fly to Kuwait. But the pilots of the Indian Pilots Guild refused to operate the flights to Kuwait. Thereafter we resumed the flights for Kuwait with the executive pilots. We were least affected. After that, they said that they would not fly to Singapore and Hong Kong. We said, OK, do not go to Singapore and Hong Kong. Those flights too were managed by us with the help of executive pilots. It did not affect the Air India. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Shri Suman should be sent there. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we managed to operate the flights for Singapore and Hong Kong by the executive pilots. We were not affected at all. When they realised that Air India did not suffer

[Shri Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain]

any loss they imposed a new condition. They said that if any pilot who operated the flight to Singapore or Hong Kong within a period of ten days, should furnish a certificate to the effect that he did not fly to those places within the said period only then they would fly with him. This was an illegitimate demand all together. We told them how could this be possible. We are people's representatives, we are sitting here for the people, they have elected us and if the passengers are facing difficulties at airports, then we should take it very seriously. Since they did not declare strike at the eleventh hour. They operated the flights to America and Europe. They said that first it should be given in writing that any of the crew members did not fly to Singapore or Hong Kong, only then they would accompany them and they refused to operate the flights. They have indulged in an act to lower the image of the Air India world over. The TV channels were showing the bytes on their channels in which the passengers were shown worried and troubled, that was not caused by the Air India Management. Had they declared the strike, we would have rescheduled those flights. But these people come to the airport, keep their bags there and then they say that give us in writing. If tomorrow they say that if any of these passengers have visited Singapore or Hong Kong within a period of ten days or suppose had Shri Ramji Lal Suman returned from Hong Kong or Singapore within a period of ten days, on hearing his name only, they would have refused to fly with him on board because they are determined to make the Air India management give in on this or that condition.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two types of rules. Hon. Health Minister is also sitting here. Nor the WHO has prohibited any airlines from operating to Hong Kong or Singapore. The 'IATA' the international body which operates the airlines, nowhere has issued directions that flights should not be operated for Singapore or Hong Kong.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to give a good news to the House that despite their current strike, the Air India has made all the preparations. They said that we did not hold talks. I had asked the Secretary, Civil Aviation to hold talks with the striking pilots. They said that they would not come to Delhi for talks. Then our representative went to Mumbai and held talks with them. We told them due to their refusal to fly at the eleventh hour, passengers are put to hardships. There are several passengers who are sick. Someone has to go to America for operation, someone has to go to Europe and someone has to appear in the examination and someone is going for a job.

We have asked them to come here once and we will look into their grievances. Air India has just started

earning profits and we also managed to keep it out of the disinvestment list. Last year it earned a profit to the tune of Rs. 15 crore and this year we are likely to get a profit of Rs. 100 crore. If the Iraq war had not broken out, we would have been in a position to earn a profit of Rs. Three to four hundred crore. Do they mean that the profit we are earning, should be divided among all the pilots and that too those who are already getting Rs. 4-5 lakh salary per month? Sir, through you, we have to share an information with the entire country. If we go through the flight percentage, the Air India operates 20 percent flights, 12 percent is operated by the Indian Airlines and the remaining 68 percent is operated by the foreign airlines. I want to inform through you, Sir that we have not cancelled any flights bound for America, Europe or London despite the strike by the Indian Pilot's Guild. The second thing is that the flights which we were operating, as we being reported in newspapers that 37 flights had been cancelled, these were bound for South East Asia, these 37 flights were reported for the full week, not in a single day. Despite that the Air India has a share of 20 percent in flights operation today, but we are able to manage only 15 percent out of that and we have a loss of 5 percent and this five percent traffic, as the Indian Airlines operates its flights in South East Asia, traffic load on it was already less, nobody is willing to visit Hong Kong or Singapore. I asked several of my friends to visit those countries free of cost, they are not ready even for that. Shortfall in passenger traffic has been transferred to the Indian Airlines. Therefore, the passengers will face no problem. In future you will not hear any such incident of any passenger facing any problem. We have told the Indian Pilot's Guild and we are also having talks with the Labour Ministry in this connection as the pilots are not going on strike fully but they are creating disturbances. Therefore, they should declare this strike illegal, we are initiating the process for that.

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SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (Ambala): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have put up a notice of breach of privilege before you on my behalf and on behalf of the Members of Parliament, Shri Ramchander Binda, Shri Kishan Singh Sagwan and Dr. (Shrimati) Sudha Yadav against some officers posted in Faridabad. A meeting of the Members of Parliament of the BJP, its legislators and office-bearers was going on at Faridabad on 15 March 2003, Meanwhile some well known people of the city approached us and they told that 5000 houses had been raged to the ground in one sector of Faridabad, and asked us to see there on the spot. We went there to see for ourselves on the spot. ...*(Interruptions)*.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is being misled. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: He is speaking on the Privilege Notice.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: We went there to take stock of the situation so that we can bring the entire incident to the notice of the Chief Minister or the Central leadership but meanwhile in the leadership of the Superintendent Police of Faridabad, Mr. Kaviraj, Sub-Divisional Superintendent Jitendra Bhiya, the Joint Secretary of the Faridabad Development (Authority) Smt. Anita Yadav, hundred of police personnel reached there and they started attacking on the Members of Parliament, Legislators and office-bearers with their sticks. I told the Superintendent of Police that we are the elected representatives of the people and it is our privilege to collect all the information and bring it to the notice of the Hon. Chief Minister or the Centre. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the nature played havoc with Bhuj, similarly, these police officers played havoc in Sector 29 of Faridabad by demolishing 5000 houses there, creating a situation like the one the nature had created in Bhuj. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. This is the privilege notice. I will have to listen to him.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: The manner in which the Members of Parliament were attacked, I request you to kindly institute an inquiry into the matter and take action against those found guilty. *...(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, thus, the police made a murderous attack on me, Legislators and Members of Parliament, and office bearers of my party and they also resorted to lathi charge on the demonstrators. I had sustained injuries. And I had to be admitted to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital for three days. Legislators and Members of Parliament of our party also sustained major injuries. Therefore, it is my request to you to kindly take strict action against the erring police officers.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat): Mr Speaker, Sir, I also associate myself with the Hon. Member, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Your names will be associated with him.

*[Translation]*

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may also be permitted to make my point.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Indoraji, I will permit you too after information is received from the State Government. Please take your seat.

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is trying to mislead the House. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though we were suppose to submit our entire report to the hon. Chief Minister but he is protecting the police officers. That is why we are compelled to raise this issue in the House. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly allow me to speak as I want to tell you the truth.

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he and his party activists caught the S.P. by his collars and drag him on the road and misbehaved with the police officers. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chautalaji I have said that I would give an opportunity to you to make your point once the information is received from the State Government.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me one minute. I want to make my point. These people want to take political mileage by raising the incident here in the House which took place one month back. If these people will resort to such tricks, shall we not get an opportunity to make our point.

12.39

**(iii) Re: Reported Decision of Centre In Respect of Delimitation of Constituencies**

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very serious issue. I think it is an important issue as it pertains to increasing 13 Lok Sabha and 49 Assembly seats for schedule castes and schedule tribes. As you are aware that the Constitution 84th (Amendment) Act was made effective in the year 2001 and a notification in this regard was visited on 4.6.2002 stating that the delimitation would be done on the basis of 1991 census. Accordingly, Shri Kuldeep Singh, a retired judge of the Supreme Court has been appointed the Chairman of the said commission. The said commission has started functioning w.e.f. 4.7.2002. It has been envisaged that 1991 would be the base year for delimitation and the number of seats would remain same

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

up to the year 2026 but the main sufferer or gainer would be the scheduled castes. We all have demanded that 2001 census be taken as base for this delimitation. In this connection I have a letter of Shri Kuldeep Singh, who is the Chairman of the said commission. He has also written to the then Minister of Law on 17th of December. In this letter he has written that it is a gross injustice as it is being done after thirty years and secondly 1991 is being taken as a base year. This exercise would be done again in the year 2026. Why you are not doing this on the basis of 2001 census. In this context a reply was sent to him stating that 2001 census has not been notified. In this subsequent letter, he wrote, though it has not been notified duly, but all the facts have come in. He has explicitly mentioned in his next letter that it would be not fair to do it on the outdated basis. Give us time and provide with the facts. We are ready to do it within two three months on the basis of 2001 census. The Minister of Law replied to his letter on 21st January and wrote that we have determined 1991 census after taking in to account all the factors. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, you can speak on this when the Bill is introduced.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, it is operative part. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All right, it is operative part, please continue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, please listen to me first and let me finish my point. In this regard I have said here in the House that we are associated members and we have not been invited. I would like to congratulate the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. The Minister of Law convened a meeting on 13th of March and said to us that the Delimitation Commission is not yet ready. If we insist for 2001 then 1971 would be taken as base year. Thereafter you issue direction and accordingly the sitting of the Delimitation Commission was held in the Election Commission on 16th March 2003. A good number of members from both side were present in the said meeting. When I raise this point in that meeting, Shri Kuldeep Singhji said that he has not told such things to the Minister of law and I still stand by my words that it can be done if the facts and figures are provided to us within the fifteen days but it will be not possible if the law is amended after fifteen days. In such a situation we will carry out delimitation on the basis of 1971.

Sir, I would like to request you that the entire House is agree to carry out this exercise on the basis of 2001

census, but it should not be that it is done neither on the basis of 2001 nor on the basis 1991 and we do it on the basis of 1971 only. As per the data provided to us 13 Assembly and 49 Lok Sabha seats for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes would increase on the basis of 1991 census. The break up of these seats would be seventeen Assembly seats and two Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra, twelve Assembly and two Lok Sabha seats in Karnataka and twelve Assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Paswanji, you can speak on this when the Bill is introduced in the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO (Ropar): I also associate myself with Shri Paswanji. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Your name will be associated.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The Government have decided to carry out it on the basis of 2001 census but the people who participated in the meeting with Election Commission and Delimitation Commission are not ready for this. I shall be the happiest person if the Delimitation Commission come forward to carry out this task. To achieve this objective they have to approach the Parliament in order to amend 1991 to 2001. If such situation arises the Government will have to notify the 2001 census. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, generally the term of Delimitation Commission happens four years but the term of this commission is only two years. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You are not coming to the operative part.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, I have to make a suggestion. So far as I think the entire House is ready to carry out the delimitation on the basis of 2001 but if anyhow it is not carried out on the basis of 2001 then it should not be carried out on the basis of 1971. Rather it should be carried out on the basis of 1991. The State Government which are likely to be affected by this are hatching a conspiracy to get it done anyhow on the basis of 1971 in pretext of 2001. Therefore, I want to know as to what is the intention of the Government in this regard? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: The Government should comment on it as to what is going to be because as it is a very serious matter. I also associate myself with it. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot): I also associate myself with it. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also associate myself with it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can have a discussion on it when the related Bill is introduced in the House. Is it a matter to be raised and discussed in the Zero Hour?

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA: Sir, with your permission I want to lay on the table, the file pertaining to facts relating to the question raised by Shri Katariji. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right. you can lay it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Whether the Government want to say something in this regard or not or the Government are not concerned with it at all?

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with you. I have said that it will be discussed once the Bill is introduced. Please listen to the hon. Minister.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Ramdasji please sit down. What is this. Please sit down. Listen to the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the subject to be raised during Zero Hour on which the Government should respond. Moreover, a Bill is being brought on this which will be discussed in length and breadth. During the course of debate, the Government would respond seriously to queries of the Members. Such type of questions are not asked and responded to by the Government during the Zero Hour.

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YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the hundreds of deaths being caused by encephalitis in different parts of the country. Every year hundreds of people are dying due to encephalitis in different parts of the country particularly in eastern part of Uttar Pradesh i.e. in Gorakhpur, Kushinagar,

Maharajanj, Deoria etc. districts, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and some parts of Andhra Pradesh. After rainy season mind fever which is known by the name of encephalitis breaks out and affects mostly the children below the age group of sixteen years and the children afflicted by this disease either die or reach on the verge of mentally retardness. In order to bring this problem to the notice of the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare. I raised this issue here in the House during the last season also. At that time the then Minister of Health and Family Welfare gave an assurance that arrangements would be made by Union Government for vaccination in those areas before setting in of the Monsoon so that it could be controlled to some extent. In order to check the deaths being caused by encephalitis in Gorakhpur etc. districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh last time, the Red Cross society was directed to carry out vaccination but the said society has not carried out the vaccination in the said areas so far. The hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare is present here in the House and I would like to request him that in order to check the hundreds of deaths caused by encephalitis after monsoon, arrangements for vaccination should be made in advance.

[*English*]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Earlier also I had raised the same issue regarding the need to constitute a Parliamentary Standing Committee for OBCs. Since 1952, according to the constitution, we have a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Since 1993 we have given reservations for the OBCs. To monitor proper implementation of those reservations, there should be a Parliamentary Standing Committee, like the one we have for Women and another one for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This matter has been pending for the last three years. My request, through you, to the Government is that the Government of India should form a separate Committee as 50 per cent of the population belongs to the Backward Classes. We have given so much facilities to the Other Backward Classes. But there is no Standing Committee to review their related programmes. Therefore, I am requesting, through you, to the Government to form a separate Parliamentary Committee for the OBCs. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are fifty percent women in OBC, SC/ST etc. but there is no mention of it. ...(*Interruptions*) The women reservation Bill is still pending. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given the notice of breach of privilege. I have given the notice of breach of privilege against the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh on 24 instant. ...*(Interruptions)* The statement of Ms. Mayawati amounts to contempts of the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

KNNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given the notice of breach of privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me have some information from the Government. Let me receive some information from Ms. Mayawati.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, people are clamouring for drinking water in Delhi. There is acute shortage of drinking water. Please allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)* I have given notice on this subject. In my parliamentary constituency people are clamouring for drinking water. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice is coming up.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise to raise a very important matter regarding future generation.

Now, NCERT is publishing certain history books. In today's *Times of India*, there is a report to the effect that Hitler, as the founder of the Nazist Party, is pictured as a great man of socialism and nationalism in those books. But not a word is mentioned about the millions of Jews who were massacred. They were massacred. At the same time, no mention is made about the Nazi-like superiority propounded by Hitler's Nazist Party. They were claiming superiority over not only Europeans and Africans but also over the Indians. No mention is made about it. So, a young chap or a boy who is regarding history will think that Hitler is a great man. He will be seen as a very big historic man because he stood for socialism and nationalism. On the contrary, facts are otherwise. Without stating those facts and picturing Hitler as a person of eminence as a nationalist and socialist is highly dangerous. It is not only that. There are so many other instances like this. I am pointing out only one instance. If things go on like this, the future generation will be admirers of Hitler, Mussolini and other dictators who had butchered humanity.

So, I request the Central Government to re-write history in its proper perspective.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: At this age why are you taking such pain.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present Delhi has a population of about one and half crore out of which about fifty lakh people ...*(Interruptions)* It is an important subject. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, you may deem it important enough to instruct the Government to react on this point. I am not saying that what he says should be acted upon. He has certainly raised a matter of paramount importance. If Hitler is being presented in our textbooks as a hero and in a positive line, it is indeed a case of terrible example of historical de-writing not merely re-writing.

MR. SPEAKER: The Government may take note of this point.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the population of Delhi is approximately one and a half crore, out of which 50 lakh people live in jhuggi clusters, unauthorized colonies, rehabilitation bastis and poor bastis. The Government of Delhi headed by Shrimati Shield Dixit have not laid any line for drinking water in these habitations. The arrangement of drinking water is made through tankers. Not even a single drop of water has been supplied through those tankers for the last one week.

I want to tell you that Delhi needs 850 MGD water as per its population while only 600 MGD water is available. Out of it 200 MGD water gets wasted. Delhi gets a total of 400 MGD water. People are not getting water in an extremely hot weather. People are facing acute shortage of water. The Government of Shrimati Shiela Dixit has not taken any step for meeting this shortage of water. The construction of 140 MGD water plant should have been completed in the year 2000 but it has not been completed as on date. People are facing acute crisis of water. One third of population lives in my parliamentary constituency where 2000 MGD water should have been made available but not even 50 MGD water is available there. The poor masses are in dire need of drinking water. Through you, I would like to demand that an arrangement be made for drinking water in Delhi. I



would like to urge the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to tell us something about the status of water in Delhi. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (Etawah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to request the hon. Communication Minister about the mobile service Cell-1, which has recently been started by Sanchar Nigam in Etawah. So many connections have been given in that mobile service that telephone remains out of order almost everyday. Subscribers are unable to talk for 2-3 hrs. due to heavy traffic therefore, it is my request that capacity of mobile service should be increased. Neither the mobile service nor the WLL service has erected towers in Jaswant Nagar. It causes enormous problem for the subscribers over there. Cable line has not been laid in the rural areas WLL and Mobile service towers should be erected in Jaswant Nagar so that the people can be benefited ...(*Interruptions*) Cable has not been laid in rural areas which keeps them totally deprived from telephone services. The new mobile towers at Bakewar, Ajotmul, Saifyee and Kathkoti have not been started.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir my notice is of 24th.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not yet said no to you.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I gave you notice on 24th April. It is contempt of entire House. The Chief Minister of U.P. Ms. Mayawati has called the entire House followers of Manu. It is a very serious issue. We need your protection. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am about to give you permission. Please take you seat.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, socialists can never be followers of Manu. We are repeatedly insulted by being called followers of Manu. Entire House is being abused. Sir, that is why we need your protection. The Chief Minister of U.P. Ms. Mayawati is constantly breaching the decorum of the parliamentary democracy, making mockery of it. I have given notice for breach of privilege. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak. But why do you call me honourable when you do not honour my words.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my notice is of 24th April. I made a humble request to you. This issue is very serious. It comes in the ambit of contempt of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

12.58 hrs.

**(iv) Re: Women's Reservation Bill**

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Women's Reservation Bill is pending so far. I have a new suggestion as regards the proposal of giving 33 per cent reservation to women. All the Members have apprehensions of losing their seats. That is why I propose that there is a need to increase one-third seats. This issue should be resolved by increasing 182 seats. The Government of India needs to implement it at the earliest. I demand that 110 out of 182 seats may be reserved for the women belonging to S.C., S.T. and minorities category and the remaining 72 may be given to women belonging to general category. This way this issue should be solved increasing 182 seats.

Madam, I want to submit. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How can you address me Madam.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If Madam Parliamentary Affairs Minister wishes to make any submission as regards Women's Reservation Bill, she is permitted, otherwise Ramji Lal Sumanji may make his submissions.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You may ask Madam.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Men category is evolving new means to defer the Women's Reservation Bill. One of those formulae has been prescribed by Athawale ji today. Now, it is a novel idea that reservation may not be given out of the existing 540 seats but the number may be increased by 182. Now ways are being coined to defer and postpone it. And they want my reaction towards it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It would have been better for them had the Minister not reacted.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I have submitted that this issue may be resolved by increasing the number of seats. ...(*Interruptions*)

13.00 hrs.

## OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

### Re: Question of Privilege

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given you a notice of breach of privilege against the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Mayawati on the 24th April. We had a very useful and meaningful discussion on the 21st April on account of your good offices in regard to the said misuse of discretionary fund during the Chief Ministership of the former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and the former Defence Minister of the country, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ji and 137 criminal cases were registered in a day against him and other senior leaders of the party. The entire House expressed its concern that a wrong convention would be followed. We consider Tamil Nadu as an exception. But U.P. has now left even Tamil Nadu behind.

It would be better for a healthy policy that a code of conduct be framed for Chief Ministers. You had even directed that the Prime Minister may convene a meeting and thereafter a code of conduct may be framed. Thereafter when the question was raised in this House that very day the U.P. Chief Minister reacted that Lok Sabha is the class of followers of Manu. It is breach of privilege. Members had expressed their opinion that it was not justified to call the entire Parliament disciples of Manu. As far as accusing Shri Mulayam Singh ji for misusing the discretionary fund is concerned then Mayawati during here 5 months tenure has misappropriated this fund 145 times. I have definite information with me that the extent to which discretionary fund has been misused during the regime of Mayawati, has not been misused anywhere.

MR. SPEAKER: I have notices on the same subject.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my notice is on the same subject. I want that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am giving the ruling.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices of question of privilege from Sarvashri Ramji Lal Suman, Toofani Saroj, Raghunath Jha, Ram Rati Bind and Kunwar

Akhilesh Singh, Members of Parliament against Kum. Mayawati, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, for committing a contempt of the House.

As you are aware, Kum. Mayawati, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, against whom notices of question of privilege are directed, is a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

It is well-established that one House cannot claim or exercise any authority over a Member of the other House.

According to Kaul and Shakhder, "...where a contempt or a breach of privilege has been committed by a Member of Parliament against a State Legislature or by a Member of a State Legislature against Parliament ..." The convention, as I mentioned in the House a few days ago is that, "when a question of breach of privilege is raised in any Legislature in which a Member of another Legislature is involved, the Presiding Officer refers the case to the Presiding Officer of the Legislature to which that Member belongs and the latter deals with the matter in the same way as if it were a breach of privilege of that House."

I am, accordingly, referring the matter to the Hon. Speaker, Uttar Pradesh Legislative assembly for appropriate action in the matter under intimation to us.

All the 'Zero Hour' notices are over. About the privilege notices also, I have given my ruling.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three  
minutes past fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up Matters under Rule 377.

- (i) **Need to set up a T.V. relay tower at Bhamer village in Dhule parliamentary constituency to ensure better reception of DD-I and DD-II channels.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT (Dhule): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sajhi tehsil under my parliamentary constituency Dhule, Maharashtra is a tribal dominated area. The people of this area are not able to view DD-I and Metro Channel of Doordarshan in absence of this facility. Besides, DD-I channel is relayed through Shirpur Relay Centre in the parliamentary constituency Shindkhhera tehsil but there is no provision for viewing metro-channel and thus, the people of this area are deprived of this facility.

Therefore, through you I would urge the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to take proper action to set up T.V. relay tower at Bhamer village near Nijampur village of Saki tehsil in my parliamentary constituency Dhule and start immediate telecast of metro channel from Shirpur relay centre in Shindkhhera district.

- (ii) **Need for proper maintenance of roads in Begusarai Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar under Central Road Fund.**

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): The proposals regarding repair of State highways, main district roads, national highways and other important roads not linked with the rural roads are considered under Central Road Fund. A few schemes have been sanctioned for Bihar under this head while there is a dire need to repair or maintain the roads in the State. Several important roads come under the four districts viz. Begusarai, Shekhpura, Lakhisarai and Jamui under my parliamentary constituency Begusarai, whose revival is imperative. They are as under Barbeedha to Shekhpura and Sikandra Jamui Road-Shekhpura to Lakhisarai-Shekhpura to Mehoos Mafo Shahra Road-Shekhpura-Anyari Shahpur More-Shekhpura Adha Road-T.T.-Hathiyava, Hathiyava-Shekhpura Mehoos road-Lakhi Sarai Sikandara Road to Pratappur.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government through the House and would like to submit that the condition of the above mentioned roads may be improved under the said scheme during the current financial year.

- (iii) **Need to provide compensation to the people of Barmer Parliamentary Constituency affected due to explosion of land mines on Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan.**

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer): Sir, 800 kilometre border of my Parliamentary Constituency

is adjoining Pakistan. The Government has given part of the compensation to the farmers for the crops that were damaged on account of development of forces on the Indo-Pak border for a fairly long time. As far as compensation for the loss to livestock and loss of lives of civilians is concerned due to explosion of land mines a package has been prepared. But the civilians have not been given compensation in most of the cases. People have not been given compensation for losing their limbs, getting wounded and loss of livestock.

Therefore, I would urge the Minister of Defence, through you for taking the following measures:-

1. I would urge to Union Government to pay the outstanding amount of the compensation to the farmers through the State Government.
2. To get a survey conducted in Barmer and Jaisalmer with a view to ascertain the number of people and livestock wounded owing to the explosions of land mines.
3. The number of people who have got the compensation and for how much livestock and the number of people remaining to be compensated and for how much livestock.
4. To pay the compensation to the remaining wounded people and for the loss of their livestock.

- (iv) **Need to increase floor area ratio of dwelling units and Regularise need based additions to buildings in Chandigarh.**

[*English*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, to meet the growing need for more space necessitated by increase in the sizes of families and unable to afford bigger houses, over ninety per cent of the owners of different categories of houses in Chandigarh have, over the years, added some extra construction on their own plots without encroachment on Government land.

The sudden issuance of notices by the authorities to such persons requiring them to either demolish such construction or face resumption of their built-up plots has led to widespread anxiety and panic. Most of the affected persons, belonging to middle income group, are retired employees or low income groups who have spent life-long savings on their modest dwellings. Demolition on a massive scale is both impractical and undesirable. What is needed is an amendment of the floor-area ratio (FAR)

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]  
commensurate with the present day standards of urban land utilisation.

I urge the Government to increase FAR appropriately and regularise the need based addition to buildings in Chandigarh subject to approval of plans from architectural and structural view points.

**(v) Need to formulate a comprehensive strategy to combat AIDS**

Dr. Manda Jagannath (Nagar Kurnool): Sir, AIDS is spreading across the country with frightening rapidity in recent years. Despite Rs. 1,000 crore being pumped every year into AIDS prevention, more than for any other health problem in India, the virus runs riot. Over four million Indians are HIV positive, double the figure in 1994. 35 per cent AIDS cases in India occur among youth in the 15-24 age group but only a few projects educate them about the risks. With no accountability a host of dubious NGOs have mushroomed in the country to cash in on the flush of funds. NACO's guidelines are being openly flouted by the NGOs. AIDS awareness is at very low ebb. I request the Government to form a clear and comprehensive strategy to combat AIDS, exercise control over NGOs with regular monitoring of funds distribution and utilisation, and penal action may be taken against those NGOs who commit fraud.

I request the Union Government to set up Counselling Centre and Treatment Centres urgently in the Government hospitals to cope with demand.

**(vi) Need to evolve a comprehensive uniform policy providing reservation benefits to OBCs settled in any part of the country.**

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram): Sir, it is the common feature of our country that many migrants from one State have moved and settled in another State. In that process, a sizable population of Tamil Nadu have migrated from Tamil Nadu to Delhi some decades back and settled in and around Delhi.

Coming to the specific problem faced by the migrants in general and the Tamils in particular, Mandal Commission has rightly reported and the list of OBC State-wise has been notified enabling them to avail the concessions and benefited entitled. But the migrants are handicapped from availing such benefits unless the community is notified in the settled State of the migrant. This anomaly has caused untold hardships and sufferings to the migrants and settlers from other state particularly from Tamil Nadu.

It is high time, therefore, to take cognisance of the national problem and I urge upon the Government of India to evolve a comprehensive policy besides an interim strategy to sort out this long pending issue particularly faced by the Tamils in Delhi.

**(vii) Need to suitably amend Anand Marriage Act for registering Sikh marriages.**

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur): Sir, the Anand Marriage Act, 1909 is five-clause Act, which was enacted to legalise the Sikh marriage ceremony of Anand Karaj. The operative clause 2 reads, "All marriages which may be or may have been duly solemnised according to the Sikh marriage ceremony called: Anand shall be deemed to have been with effect from the date of solemnisation of each respectively, good and valid in law."

The devout Sikh, man and woman, finds it abhorrent to register his marriage under the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act or the Special Marriage Act.

Through you, Sir, we, the Sikhs, want the enforcement of our law and the following provisions of the law to be brought into force:

1. The provisions of the Anand Marriage Act are expanded to incorporate clauses for registration of marriages for Sikhs resident in India as well as non-resident Sikh,
2. The Sikh marriage should be governed exclusively under this Act only, and
3. A committee of experts should be immediately appointed by the Ministry of Law and Justice to formulate the expansion of the above Act.

**(viii) Need to relax forest laws with a view to implement Programmes for development of Adivasi areas of Bharuch Parliamentary Constituency.**

[Translation]

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA (Bharuch): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards adverse effect of the Forest Protection Act, 1980 and sanctuary laws in my tribal dominated area. These laws are hampering the development activities in my constituency, Bharuch which is backward and tribal dominated. Pardhan Mantri Sadak Yojana, rural electrification telephone facilities and other development works have not been started there. Recently the Union Government has sanctioned Rs. 1 crore and

42 lakh on my request for road construction at Kanzi Bandri village but due to these laws the work could not be started. Although the Government has amended the Forest Protection Law. But these problems have not been solved so far. I, through the House, request the Union Government to relax these laws for development of backward and tribal areas. So the development work could not get hampered.

**(ix) Need to ban cultivation of Red Algae at Munaikadu near National Marine Park, Tamil Nadu with a view to protect bio-diversity of the region.**

[English]

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Palk Strait near Rameshwaram coast in Tamil Nadu has abundant coral reef and has rich bio-diversity and forms part of National Marine Park. Unfortunately, a variety of Red Algae which can destroy coral reef is being cultivated and harvested at Munaikadu near National Marine Park. In the name of providing employment to fisher women, Pepsi, a multinational company, started this lucrative Algae farm with the support of the State Government. Eminent agricultural scientists like Dr. M.S. Swaminathan have expressed serious concern about this very dangerous species of Red Algae. While creating imbalance in the bio-diversity, this Red Algae can only richly benefit the multinational company causing destruction to our flora and fauna in that region. The dried Eucheima Cottoni, (i.e. this alien variety of Red Algae) costs about Rs. 1 lakh per tonnes in the international market and is normally collected from sea. But unfortunately Pepsi India Ltd., had exploitatively converted this as farm produce and has started harvesting it in a farm stretching over 400 hectares of land endangering our ecosystem. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to ban this cultivation of Red Algae by Pepsi India Ltd., which uses Carrageenan, the extract from this rare Algae for boosting the taste and density of cool drinks and cocktails.

**(x) Need to take concrete steps to meet drought situation in the country.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Department of Meteorology has warned that there may be drought in the current year in the country, last year, there was drought in 14 States of the country which affected farmers adversely. If the prediction of Department of Meteorology comes true then the farmers will face more difficulties. If the agriculture get damaged

then industry will not survive and service sector people will also suffer. So there is a need to pay attention towards the forecast by the Department of Meteorology. The Department indicated about scanty rainfall along with the possibilities of untimely rainfall. If the Government could take steps in time, the country can be saved from the scourge of scanty and untimely rainfall. So I request the Government to make arrangements for conservation of water at local level before monsoon and motivate the masses in this regard so that problem of water shortage can be solved to some extent. The special measures should be taken for providing easy credit to farmers for buying fertilisers, seeds so as the farmers could do their work as and when they require. Thus the Government particularly Department of Agriculture, Finance and Water Resources should act expeditiously and come forward to help the farmers.

14.20 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 2003

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we will take up Item No. 12—Further consideration of the Finance Bill. No Member is on his feet. The time allotted for the Finance Bill is 12 hours. The time allotted for general discussion is 10 hours and 30 minutes. The time taken for general discussion is one hour and 25 minutes. The balance time available for general discussion is eight hours and 55 minutes.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE (Bhilwara): Sir, I stand to support the Finance Bill, 2003.

It is important to mention that the Budget is discussed in four parts in Parliament. The first part is the General Discussion on the presentation of the Budget wherein we discuss the strategy of the Budget, the general issues, the growth rate, unemployment problem and so on. The second part comes when we take up the discussion in the House regarding the various Ministries and their Demands and so on. This year, we did discuss the Demands of only two Ministries. Actually, three Ministries were slated for discussion but we could discuss only two of them, the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of External Affairs. The third part is the Appropriation and the last and final part is the Finance Bill, which we are discussing today.

Before I come to some general issues, because I never got the chance to speak on the General Budget, I would like to say that the hon. Minister of Finance, in

[Shri Vijeyendra Pal Singh Badnore]

his Budget Speech, has set the objectives of *panch* priorities, of which I am not going into the details, but I would like to say that the priorities were set correctly and I would like to commend the hon. Minister of Finance on this. They are poverty eradication; lifetime concerns of our citizens covering health, housing, education and employment; infrastructure development; fiscal consolidation through tax reforms; and progressive elimination of budgetary drags, including levy of additional excise duty, introduction of service tax and VAT this year. The next was agriculture and related aspects, including irrigation; and then there was enhancing manufacturing sector efficiency, including promotion of exports and further acceleration of the reforms process.

The budgetary proposals for enhancing standard deduction for salaried persons, increase in the deduction for handicapped persons under section 80(u) from existing Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000, granting tax rebate under section 88, up to Rs. 12,000 for tuition fees paid for children, and additional tax benefit of Rs. 5,000 to senior citizens, etc., are welcome measures and would prove a milestone in improving the economic condition of the people at large. But there are other issues which require the attention of this House and the hon. Minister of Finance.

In the case of domestic companies which are getting dividend income from another Indian company, such dividend is subject to dividend tax at 12.5 per cent under section 115(o) of the Income Tax Act of 1961. No deduction on inter-corporate dividend in the form of a cascading effect has been granted. In other words, such dividend income receivable by Indian companies after dividend tax should be exempted as were exempted earlier under section 80(m) of the Income Tax Act of 1961. Some safeguards may be put in because it might be manipulated, but I feel that this must be looked into because we must go back to the earlier exemptions.

Let me talk about the tax deduction at source on interest and other incomes. The procedures thereof should be more smooth, comfortable and transparent. Presently filing Form 15H separately within seven days of close of the year and filing TDS return thereafter separately is getting very voluminous and has no constructive uses as such. It requires simple procedure. I request the hon. Minister of Finance to look into that as well.

The withdrawal of tax concession under Section 88 in respect of insurance policies having the premium amount more than 20 per cent of Actual Capital Sum Assured will, I think, bring negative growth on investments.

If policy is for, let us say Rs. 1,00,000/ and annual premium exceeds Rs. 20,000 or more, no benefit under section 88 would be available. Bonus would also be taxable.

The next issue that I want to raise is granting blanket exemption on Long Term Capital Gain on transfer of listed Equity Shares under Section 10(36) from 1.3.2003 to 28.2.2004. I do agree that it will be beneficial. But what I feel is that if there is any chance of manipulation in this because the thinly traded shares of companies may be manipulated, this must be looked into so that the loopholes are plugged.

Sir, I have a few suggestions also for the hon. Minister of Finance. It is requested to abolish the provisions of Section 50C, where the seller of immovable property is liable to Capital Gain Tax on value as determined by the Government Authority than on actual consideration. Nowhere in the world we have a provision like this. This was introduced last year and I also mentioned last year something about it. This provision is having a very negative effect on the real estate and I want the hon Minister of Finance to look into this as well.

Here, may I also say that in our economy, the black money has a very big role? Many years ago, there used to be a Voluntary Disclosure Scheme and there used to be other steps also. What I feel is that to get the black money out, some sort of a scheme should be there, especially if they can be used in the infrastructure developmental schemes. Right now we are going through severe drought and famine conditions in Rajasthan and in many other States. If this black money is made to come out and some sort of bonds are issued to give relief to the people affected by drought and famine conditions, then, I think, it would be a very good idea. If the black money comes out, I am sure, it will benefit the economy in general.

Lastly, I would also like to talk about the stock market and the capital market. Millions of Indians have a stake in the stock market. The media coverage of stock market is here to stay. Each rise and fall of the *sensex* affects the public mood and the buoyancy in the stock market is the key to their elusive feel-good factor. In order to raise the growth rate of the Indian economy to eight per cent—which we really want and which the hon. Prime Minister has been talking about, and which is also the agenda of our Government—I feel that something must be done about the stock market to get some investment into the stock market.

I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance. In the current Budget the hon. Minister of Finance has proposed many incentives for investment in shares. These include: the dividends are made tax-free in the hands of the recipient; the long-term capital gains on shares—which I was talking about—exempted from tax. I do not think there could have been much better measures introduced for the revival of the stock market. However, in spite of all these, the stock market in India has consistently been falling since the announcement of the Budget.

It is interesting to note that in the past three months, the Karachi Stock Exchange index—we do not want to talk about them, but still—has gone up by ten per cent and in the same period our sensex at BSE has come down by ten per cent. Everyday we feel that it is going down and down. If we do not want to talk about the neighbours, let us talk about the U.S. In the past three months NASDAQ is up by five per cent while our sensex, as I said, is down by ten per cent. This is in spite of the fact that all external and geopolitical factors such as Iraq War, SARS virus scare, etc. have affected the stock market all over the world. This is also in spite of the positive factors, as I mentioned, introduced in the Budget 2003-2004.

I am not a person who would like to praise the *badla* or BLESS or ALBM. But still, that was the indigenously developed system in the capital market and it was an accepted thing. What I cannot understand is that if something went wrong with it you want to avoid it. It is like if you have an accident on the road, you do not close the road; you only want to police it, you want to regulate it. Therefore, what I feel is that we need some sort of such measures.

You introduced margin trading. I have been talking about the margin trading when I was a Member of the JPC. Even then, in the JPC, we did say that somewhere we must infuse, we must have some sort of investment systems introduced, which is the requirement today in the stock market.

Loans and finances are cheaply available and easily available in India for purchase of all assets—it may be TV, car, motor cycle, all home goods or trucks, etc. But if you want to buy shares in the market, there is no system of loans. Even the banks do not give you the loans very easily and exactly the same thing has happened in the markets for stocks and shares leading to a depressed stock market. As a result of the depressed stock market, there is very little investment equity being raised from the primary market in India. The prospective

users of primary market are seeking to raise equity capital overseas rather than tapping the resources in the savers in India.

An efficient margin trading system is the pressing need of the hour and this will be a system to provide the much-needed liquidity and buoyancy to the market. I feel that this must be done. Otherwise, even our industries are not prospering because the capital market is so low and is in doldrums, if I may say so. That is why I feel that something very important must be done to get the stock market back and rejuvenated.

DR. M.V.V.S MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this year the hon. Minister of Finance has taken several steps to ease the burden on the common man. While doing so, he has given certain concessions to the small-scale sector and, at the same time, certain small-scale sector items had been de-reserved, which is likely to cause a very keen competition with the large-scale sector. I really want the hon. Finance Minister, that the de-reserved items that are being manufactured very efficiently by the small-scale sector should have been kept reserved for some more time. The small-scale sector consists of employment-generating units. All said and done, the major employer in our country is the small-scale sector. The Finance Minister should take into consideration this aspect for giving some more concessions to the small-scale sector and the limit for giving excise concessions should be enhanced from one crore of rupees to two crore of rupees. This will keep the small-scale sector going and also enable them to withstand the competition from the large-scale sector.

Today, we are bothered by the growth rate. The growth rate has been severely affected by the drought conditions, and the production level in the agriculture sector has dipped. When compared with the last four or five years, this year's production levels are the lowest. We have not witnessed this sort of effect on the farming community earlier. The farming community, which represents the majority of the population, is really facing troubles today. As it is, today, the farmers are very much depressed as to whether the monsoon will arrive exactly after 45 days or not from now. Very confusing statements are appearing in the Press that monsoon is likely to be delayed this year. Let us hope that the monsoon will arrive effectively in time so that the farming community, which represents 75 per cent of the population, can engage themselves in farming activities. For that purpose, steps have to be taken to enable them to purchase seeds, implements and other inputs.

[Dr. M.V.V.S. Murthi]

Today, the farming community is not getting any credit from the Banks. When the hon. Prime Minister said in his statement that the interest on Farm loans would be waived, everybody including myself thought that the interest on the loans taken from various banks would be waived. However, they have only waived 20 per cent of the interest. That means only one year's interest has been waived, and they have deferred the balance interest that has accrued on the loans. With the result, they are getting into debt trap again. It is very difficult for them to get loans again, which is really required by them in the coming monsoon season. This is a very serious problem. I want the Finance Minister to understand the feelings of the public and everyone else, including the feelings of the hon. Members. Everybody thought that the whole interest part has been waived. I shall request him to look into this matter and to waive the whole interest part on the Farm loans so that only the loan component will remain, and the farmer can get additional loan to engage himself in farming activities in the coming season.

Today, the farming community needs insurance. Only on certain selective crops, it has been given—that too, it has been given on a random basis. The hon. Finance Minister has stated that a separate insurance body would be created.

I would request the Minister of Finance to take immediate steps to set up an insurance organisation at the national level to undertake crop insurance activity. For the purpose of insurance and settlement of claims, Mandals/Taluks/Blocks are being taken as units. These names change from State to State. I would say that it is highly erratic and impracticable to take the Blocks as units for this purpose. Instead, the revenue village, in which the land and crop records are all available, should be taken as the unit. That would help in offering insurance to more popular crops, and the benefits would really reach the farming community. I hope the hon. Minister of Finance would take necessary steps, before the monsoon starts, to create this body. I hope he would have the orders issued to change the present unit of Block to revenue village.

I would also request the hon. Minister to have the crop insurance amount deducted at the time of disbursement of loans so that farmers do not feel the burden of those payments and at the same time the banks would also be assured of payment. I hope the Minister will take care of this aspect.

The major source of credit to farmers in the country today is cooperative banks. However, most of the

cooperative banks are in doldrums now for various reasons. There is no system in place now to coordinate in this field and pump money into cooperative banks for disbursement to the farming community. I would, therefore, request the Finance Minister to strengthen the Central cooperative banks in every District, and put in place a monitoring system in which the States as well as the Central Government take part, to ensure smooth flow of credit to the farmers. This step would help the farming community—which is of sizeable proportions in our country—in tiding over their difficulties.

I now come to handloom and textiles. There are certain small power looms which manufacture certain branded items, but they do not do it on a large scale. Excise duty is being imposed on them now. I would like to urge the Government to exempt such units from excise. If the duty continues at the present level, those units would not be able to compete with the large companies in the market. This would adversely affect the employment situation in this sector. This sector is already facing a crisis due to lack of marketing facilities and imposition of excise now would badly hit this sector. I request the Finance Minister to look into this aspect.

My next point is on the very vital sector of power. Energy is required for everything today. We have recently passed the Electricity Bill which would be very helpful in the fields of production and distribution. However, certain criterion has been adopted in regard to allowing concessional tax rate on import of capital goods for power production. Concessional rate of five per cent is allowed on equipment of high voltage transmission of 440 voltage capacity. At the same time, a restriction has been put that mega power projects of more than 1000-megawatt capacity only can import the goods. How many 1000 megawatt capacity power projects are coming up in the country today? All the power projects that are coming are small ones. I would, therefore, request the Finance Minister to remove this condition and allow the concessional tax rate to power projects of lower capacity also so that power is made available at cheaper rates.

The country today needs power. Everywhere there is a shortage of power. Almost all the States are reeling under power shortage. Power is not available. Agriculture is also inter-connected with power, but we are not able to give the required power to the agriculture sector. We have not been able to give power to many of the villages even today. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to please look into this aspect.

The power producing projects which connect into 440 voltage transmission should be given concession. Many



Chief Ministers have written to the hon. Minister about this concession. Therefore, I want the hon. Minister to look into this aspect also.

Sir, there are so many things where we need to pay attention. But whatever concessions he has given, he has given them for the boosting of the industries. At the same time, I want that he should give concessions to the mega projects on power. Again I would say that the agriculture community is the community which is being badly affected due to shortage of power. So, I want the hon. Minister to look into these aspects.

Sir, I sincerely appreciate the steps that have been taken by him. I may also ask about the removal of dividend tax at the company level. But some companies can pay the dividend tax. I am very happy that he has removed the dividend tax at the level of investors. This will boost the investments.

With these few words, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister having introduced the Finance Bill, and I fully support it.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for permitting me to take part in the discussion on Finance Bill, 2003-2004. I, thoroughly studied the Appropriation Bill in which Government gave top priority to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperative and other departments related thereto. But unfortunately the Government's negligent attitude towards the farmers is responsible for farmers' misery. The Government gave priority to agriculture on paper but it is adopting negligent attitude towards farmers, thus they resort to commit suicide.

Sir, discussion regarding farmers issue has been held several times in the House. If we go through the replies given by the Government, we find that the Government have not made efforts to solve the problems of the farmers. Agriculture contributes 35 per cent to country's GDP but the paddy crop was not procured at declared minimum support price. Whatever the quantity has been stored in FCI's godowns it has been purchased through middlemen.

I would like to tell that farmers suffered loss of Rs. 110 to Rs. 130 per quintal as procurement could not be made as per minimum support price. The Government has declared minimum support price for wheat. It is the wheat season. I will not cite example of other states but in Uttar Pradesh wheat production has declined to more than 50 per cent. At some places it is reported to be

2 quintal per acre. The middlemen are procuring wheat at the rate of Rs. 450-460 per quintal against the minimum support price declared by the Government.

Sir, the condition of sugarcane growers is more pitiable. The issue of sugarcane growers was discussed in the House. When agitating farmers were killed in police firing, then hon. Prime Minister keeping in view the feeling of the House announced an increase in MSP by Rs. 5. We want to thank him for it. But the problem of sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh is some what different. In spite of an increase by 5.00 per quintal of sugarcane priced and the rebate of Rs. 4.00 per quintal in excise duty for sugar mill owners, the MSP of sugarcane is Rs. 82.00 to 85.00 per quintal for the sugarcane growers of U.P.

Last year sugarcane growers of U.P. got Rs. 95 and Rs. 100 per quintal for their product but in the current year, in spite of problems of flood and drought they produced sugarcane and the Government fixed, the minimum support price of sugarcane Rs. 82 and 85 per quintal. As per my information the subsidy for Rs. 75 crore has been provided to sugar industry. The export subsidy of Rs. 150 to 200 crore has been provided and ocean subsidy of Rs. 70 crore has been provided at the rate of 7\$/MT to this sector. The subsidy of Rs. 400 crore has been provided to sugar industry, if it had been provided to sugarcane growers then they would have been certainly got its benefit. But the sugar mill owners did not utilise the fund in the interest of farmers. I got the data regarding U.P. but not the entire country. Last year when the mill owners provided the rate of Rs. 95 and Rs. 100 per quintal to the sugarcane growers then the average market rate of sugar was Rs. 11 per kg. Even after selling sugar at the rate of Rs. 11 per kg. 71.84 per cent of farmers is due against the mill owners. In the current year the rate of sugarcane have been reduced due to the lackadaisical approach of the U.P. Government and the conspiracy hatched by the sugar mill owners...". Even then about 71.95 per cent is outstanding against private sugar mills of sugarcane growers. Last year when they had to pay the high price they sold the sugar at the same price. At that time 71.84 per cent was outstanding and today when they are paying low rates outstanding amount is higher. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): The hon. Member said about judiciary ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: If the Government and sugar mill owners try to exploit the farmers then we will request the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Expunged as order by the chair.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Deo, when he is not yielding, you Cannot raise it. The hon. Minister is here, he will take note of it and he will give a reply to that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: But how can he say about the courts? I am objecting to that sentence of the hon. Member. May I know whether it will form part of the proceedings? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I am not blaming judiciary particularly. In Uttar Pradesh the court has given decision in favour of mill owners and Samajwadi party believes that the Government and the sugar mill owners are exploiting the farmers.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: He is casting aspersions on the judgment of the court and the judicial system. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, it should not be discussed here.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they cannot say anything about the judgement of the court. He has challenged the judgement of the court. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No such casting of aspersions on the judgement of the courts can be made here.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Even today 71.95 per cent is outstanding against private sugar mill owners of sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Minister yesterday the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh held a meeting with the hon. Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Food and Civil Supplies and Public Distribution Minister, Shri Sharad Yadav. Mr. Minister I do not know

whether you were present there or not. I mentioned the names on the basis of photographs appeared in the newspapers. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has said, if the states are empowered to fix the rates for sugarcane then they could give more benefits to the sugarcane growers. I would like to tell that under the sugarcane procurement policy of U.P. if sugar mill owners do not make payment of outstanding amount to sugarcane growers within 15 ays, then they have to pay interest also. If they fail to make payments within 30 days then recovery certificate will be issued against the sugar mill owners. The Union Government should ask the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh that against how many sugar mill owners the recovery certificate have been issued till date. Five months after crushing season have passed yet 7.195 per cent of MSP is outstanding. We are not questioning the State Government's rate. 71.95 per cent is outstanding of the price declared by the Prime Minister and the sugar mill owners have earned additional profit of Rs. 600 crores in the current year as compared to the last year. There is a difference between the amount paid last year and in the current year. They earned Rs. 600 crore more. Even then they have not made payment to the sugarcane growers.

Even the sugar mills in public and cooperative sector of U.P. have not made payment of the first fort-night. At least the Union Government can ask the C.M. that the mills under the State Government control should make payment for the first fortnight. Today the position is such that the payment of the first fortnight has not been made. Today, the farmers, whether in eastern U.P. or Western U.P. are helpless and their condition is very pitiable. The farmers are not reaping their standing crop. The sugar mill owners are creating panic among the farmer that their sugarcane will not be crushed and their produce is being weighed less, thus they are exploiting the farmers. The hon. Minister said on that day that he does not want to politicise the issue of farmers. Three farmers at Mundeva and two at Ramkola were killed. I would like to make a humble request that it is a serious matter and the hon. Finance Minister must pay attention towards this problem. Whatever is possible under the rule should be done for the benefit of the farmers.

I just talked to the hon. Prime Minister and requested him that interest on outstanding amount should be paid to the farmers as per the rule and interest on outstanding amount should be paid within 15 days, thus the rate will become Rs. 92-93 per quintal. The farmers will get Rs. 2 less than the last year but they will get some relief. So, I request the hon. Minister to take some initiative. The agriculture sector is being neglected today

and the problem of drought is prevailing. The farmers are not getting adequate power supply for their fields. They are not getting adequate power supply as the State Government have their other priorities. Therefore, I would like to make a request that clear direction should be issued to the State Government in this regard. The farmers should get adequate power supply to increase their production and if the production would increase, then definitely they will get some more money. Therefore, I hope that you will take into account these special circumstances.

You have covered the demands of a number of departments under it. The Ministry of Health is of the view that medical subject is covered under the state list. It is not related to the Union Government. But you can see what is the condition in the States. A Community Health Centre was announced to be opened in Uttar Pradesh which is the largest state. The construction cost of this Community Health Centre is rupees one crore and forty lakhs. It is built for the last three years but no doctor has been posted there. Only the buildings have been constructed.

The condition of education sector is also not good. If there is one school anywhere under the primary education sector, there is only one teacher for that school and it has come to our notice that there are 350-400 children in each such school. If adequate teachers are not posted, then how only one teacher will manage to teach such a large strength of 400-450 children single handed by this aspect should be addresses to.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is an important Yojana. Under this Yojana the Government of India have issued clear cut guidelines to the State, that they should construct roads under the Yojana in compliance with these guidelines. But the State like Uttar Pradesh in particular are violating the guidelines. The Minister of Rural Development the Government of India has constituted monitoring and vigilance committees relating to DRDA and the hon'ble Members of Parliament have been appointed as the chairpersons of these committees. When I reviewed the position in my district at my own level, I found that the Government of India have started 'Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana' and have provided funds to the State under Drought Relief Scheme and directed the states to contribute 25 percent amount. 75 percent will be provided by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. During the review I found that the Government of India released their share under the Drought Relief Scheme but the State Governments have not contributed their share and the funds provided under the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana were diverted to the Drought Relief Yojana.

15.00 hrs.

So, you must see whether the funds provided by you under various schemes are being properly utilized by the States in accordance with your guidelines. As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, if the population of any village exceeds one thousand and that village is not linked with metalled road, then priority is to be given to link that village with metalled road. But such villages are being ignored and connecting other routes of such villages which have already been linked with metallic road through one route during 1990-1992 or 1995 is continuing. You must check all these irregularities and diversion of funds. The estimates received from Uttar Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana indicate that an amount ranging from 20 to 22 lakh rupees would be incurred on construction of per kilometer road. With due regards I would like to submit that if you constitute a joint Parliamentary Committee, road of the same quality can be ready with the cost ranging from 17 to 18 lakh rupees per kilometer. In this way submitting 25 percent higher estimates means looting of the public money. You must check this kind of loot.

Recently you have imposed excise duty on the Powerloom sector as a result of that the people engaged in Powerlooms in Mau district, Mubarkpur, Gorakhpur, Bhiwandi and Malegaon and in various parts of the country have gone on strike. They are finding their life in danger. They have started feeling that if they lose their job, their family might be on the verge of starvation. As such I would like to request that excise duty imposed on powerloom sector, if any, be withdrawn.

The readymade garments sector, which was till now covered under the small scale industry, has been excluded from the small scale industry and are now put under taxation category. I would request that this sector should also been exempted from the taxation and crores of people engaged in readymade garments sector should be saved from falling prey to starvation.

The Government had constituted a joint parliamentary committee to inquire into the scams which had taken place sometime back. That Joint Committee has since submitted its report. I have come to know that there is one Shriyam Securities Company in house trade. It was a merchant banker of the home trade. One enquiry officer of SEBI has issued order against this Shriyam Securities that licence of this company should be cancelled. But SEBI has not ensured implementation of the above order of its own officer till date. I would like that this order must be implemented. There is one Mascot company in

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

the information technology sector against which the charge of circular trading has been levelled on 10th April, the share prices in the information technology sector came down by 40 percent in the stock market. The share price of Mascot Company was reduced from 560 rupees to 280 rupees during the same day. Transactions of the Mascot share taken place through NSE and BSE from January upto 10th April are inquired into through SEBI or CBI then obviously it will be seen that scam has taken place. As the scam in share market had taken place in the past, similarly this may be a repetition of the scams. I would like that the charges levelled by me against Mascot Company, be probed through SEBI and CBI otherwise the repeated scams together with this new series of the scams would definitely affect the economy.

[English]

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here in support of the Finance Bill of the current fiscal year. Before I go into the Finance Bill and the Budget, as they both are inter-related, I must congratulate the Finance Minister for very many reasons. The first of these is that he has been able to ensure 17.9 per cent more collection of direct and indirect taxes. He has been able to ensure that the Debt Recovery Tribunal get Rs. 2153.19 crore—the outstanding recoveries which have been made in the last year itself. The Exim Policy has been very good which aims at one per cent of the global merchandise trade which is a very good achievement.

15.05 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

In addition to it, he has ensured premature repayment of the high cost currency pool loans of three billion dollars, and the Foreign Exchange Reserve has gone upto to 76 billion dollars.

Madam, Chairman, these are the turning points in the Indian economy. I again thank him for that.

Madam, when I go into the Finance Bill it is but natural that I have to speak something of the Budget itself. Before I speak something of the Budget and the Finance Bill, I would like to quote Lord Tennyson because I have the feeling that this quotation would aptly describe the mode, the manner and the actions of the Finance Minister. With your permission I quote: "He is faultily faultless, icily regular, splendidly null and dead perfection. I think the last part, 'dead perfection' is important. He

being an Army man would always hit the Bull's Eye and not the magpie or the outer. That is what he has been doing.

Madam, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi should have been present here. He was mentioning about the ITC-Indian Tobacco Company and about Rs. 20,000 crore that this company owes to the Government and that this matter has been dragging on through the Debt Appellate Tribunal and all those things. I think, the hon. Finance Minister had anticipated those types of references and that is why he has indicated in the Finance Bill that Section 35 of the Central Excise Act is to be amended to give more powers to the Appellate bodies, to the High Courts for expeditious disposal of matter that have been pending for the last so many years. Again, as I said, 'dead perfection', he is very good in many respects.

Madam, I would now go only into a portion of the Budget that has been presented and passed. In presenting the Budget for the year 2003-04, he has cased everything and in formulating the Budget itself he has taken into consideration the falling industrial growth, falling revenue receipts in the last year, the security environment that was prevailing last year and also the slow down in the worked economic growth. So, keeping these things in view, he has taken a considerable view. As you would know, Madam Chairman, the GDP growth in agriculture last year had fallen below 3.1 per cent because of the acute drought situation in the country. These have been taken into account.

Madam, the *panch* priorities have been formulated. I am not going into the *panch* priorities but only would like to refer to a portion of the *panch* priorities relating to health and health insurance. That is most important. About one rupees is being given for individuals, Rs. 1.50 per family of a certain number and Rs. 2/- for large families for insurance coverage. They would get insurance benefits and that is more important for the poorer sections of the society. There are also IT exemptions for upgradation of medical equipment and assistance to the handicapped. The hon. Minister has initiated a community based universal health insurance scheme. That is a very good one amongst the *panch* priorities. The other live concern that the hon. Finance Minister has thought of is about the senior citizens pension scheme, the *Barishta* Pension *Yojana*. These are the few things I thought I should mention.

Madam, the most important thing is the matter relating to fiscal consolidation. I would like to refer to the Annual Report of the Finance Ministry. Who we think of fiscal

consolidation. I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Members to the public debt system wherein there is a market borrowing of a staggering nature. It is astronomical. The Central Government has borrowed something like Rs. 95859 crore. The State Governments have borrowed Rs. 17276 crore and the Centrally guaranteed institutions, the State Financial Institutions have also been borrowing. They all have been borrowing.

As you are aware, the States are given funds. The first one is the Finance Commission's allocation, which is about 60 per cent of the States' allocation. Of the rest 40 per cent, 20 per cent comes from the Planning Commission and another 20 per cent comes from the discretionary grants of the Departments of the Government of India. Of the 20 per cent which comes from the Planning Commission, as you are aware, about 60 per cent is by way of loan to the State Governments; soft loans, no doubt. But 60 per cent of the soft loans for years together have come to something like Rs. 2,44,000 crore. The States have to pay to the Central Government Rs. 2,44,000 crore. It is next to impossible. That has been kept in mind by the Finance Minister when presenting the Budget and the Finance Bill itself.

He has come up to think of it in the most thoughtful manner that the fiscal consolidation can be brought about. In bringing about the fiscal consolidation the first thing he has thought of is slicing of expenditure of the Central Government in a time-bound manner. You are all aware that funds are sanctioned by the Central Ministries without taking into consideration the receipt side. So, what the Finance Minister has done is, different time-bound programmes are brought about and funds are given keeping in view the revenue receipts and the requirements of different Ministries. That is a very good step which the hon. Minister has taken in starting the financial consolidation of the Central Government and the cash management he has brought about by releasing the budgetary allocation in a time-sliced manner to permit convergence with the available resources within the year. It is not a small achievement. Once it is achieved, I am sure, the fiscal consolidation will be very good.

Coming to the debt of the State Governments, the Finance Minister has brought about one thing that he has taken the total debt of Rs. 2,44,000 crore owed by the State Governments to the Government of India and a little over one lakh crores of rupees bear coupon rates in excess of 13 per cent per annum interest. So, in order to get over this difficulty, the Finance Bill has made a modest beginning. As the Finance Minister has tried to change it into soft loans by way of small savings loans

etc., there is no difficulty for the States to change over from the staggering amount of Rs. 2,44,000 crore to a different aspect of it. The debt swap is good.

Coming to the Budget and the facts relating to it, there has been a modicum of success—and I call it a modicum success—insofar as VAT is concerned. There has been a lot of opposition to it and there have been a lot of misgivings also, in spite of the fact that the Finance Minister has announced with no uncertain terms that 100 per cent of compensation would be given in the first year and different types of—not exactly compensation—assistance would be given.

The Empowered Committee which was constituted with the West Bengal Finance Minister as the Chairman has met on the 24rd of April and has made a lot of suggestions. The suggestions indicate that VAT has to come. It has to come and this has to be kept in mind. The old order changes yielding place to the new. We have to go along with the changes that are coming up.

The Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers have taken three significant decisions on VAT on 23rd April. These decisions are: entrance of the threshold limit of traders to enter VAT has been increased from Rs. 24 lakh to Rs. 40 lakh. That is most important. The threshold limit has been recommended to be increased to Rs. 40 lakhs, to reduce VAT on all the drugs to only 4 per cent and to give flexibility to the States in protecting tax incentives to industrial units in the States. What are the incentives? There are three incentives which are given. They are exemption, remission and deferment. I hope these things will be taken into account when the question of VAT will be decided. As I have said in the beginning, there is a modicum of success and there may be deferment of all these matters. Things may take a different turn with the Finance Minister making some announcements at a later stage.

As I said earlier, the Finance Minister has taken steps to eliminate budgetary drags to get rid of the self-laid traps and lay foundation of fiscal consolidation through revenue enhancement under a modern tax administration and expenditure rationalisation. I need not go into the details of those things because the fiscal deficit is very high. It is something to the tune of Rs. 156,637 crores. It is too high. It is about 5.6 per cent of the GDP and there is a necessity of curbing this fiscal deficit. As I have said earlier, Rs. 244,000 crore are owed by the States and the States have been borrowing very heavily from the open market also. I do not know whether fiscal deficit, unless controlled property, could come up to ten

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

per cent of the GDP in another two year time. So, the profligacy of spending of the State Governments has to be harnessed. They have to be reined properly.

The Fiscal Management Bill has come. But it is yet to be passed by the Parliament itself. So, it is necessary that, from the very beginning, steps have to be taken. The Government has taken steps to abolish 12800 posts. It has taken steps to bring down administrative expenditure also but it is not adequate. When we think of fiscal deficit which is staggering in all respects, it has to be thought of that the inflation rate has to be kept low.

Let me see from the papers itself. Inflation as per the wholesale price index is 4.9 per cent and, as per the consumer price index, inflation is 3.86 per cent as on February this year. I would suggest, though a suggestion from my side may look ridiculous, that it is necessary that some drastic steps have to be taken to bring down inflation.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK (Pondicherry): You have not seen the figure of latest inflation. You see today's paper.

SHRI ANADI SAHU: Please allow me to project my way of thinking. You may put it in your way.

So, it is necessary that inflation rate has to be brought down.

Now, coming to the Finance Bill itself, as I said, the Finance Bill takes into account many aspects. Madam, as you are aware, within the last two years, corporate laws have changed considerably. We have brought amendments in the companies law about mergers, convergence and other issues relating to the working of companies. Once we have brought any change in the corporate law, the social legislation itself and any related matters of information technology and all those things, there is a necessity that the definition in all the laws have to be changed. The definitions of all these things have to be changed in the Finance Bill and that has been taken into account. You will kindly appreciate that, in the Finance Bill itself, as many as 120 definitions have been thought to be amended. That is a good beginning which has been made. I am not going into the details of those definitions as it is well known to everyone. When the definitions are being changed, things will automatically change, interpretations will change and a lot of things will become easy.

The Finance Minister, in the Finance Bill, has indicated that there will be procedural simplifications.

Procedural simplifications should not create difficulty. There were a long of difficulties in the income tax area.

That has been properly explained by procedural simplifications. There is devolution of powers to the lower functionaries in order to exclude difficulties for the people who are being assessed or the officers of the Excise Department who have to take action. That is a very good step for simplification of procedures. It has given a lot of concessions. The Central Excise Act is being amended in a beautiful manner to ensure that High Courts have a say about appeals etc.

So, in all respects the Finance Bill has taken a lot of things into consideration. It is a very good and comprehensive Bill which would go a long way in ensuring that this country turns around and comes up with very good results in the near future.

With these words I again thank the Finance Minister and conclude.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Madam Chairman, when one rises to speak on the Finance Bill which is the legislative instrument for giving effect to the Budgetary proposals of the Government, one is automatically drawn to the philosophy of or the objectives underlying the Budgetary proposals.

Madam, the professed central objective of the hon. Finance Minister this year is stated to be 'the total well being of our citizens'. In his Budget Speech, he said:

"Too often it is observed that Budgetary exercises float over the wide mass of India, relating only to a few. This is not so here"

Indeed very laudable words. But I see the reality being entirely different. The BJP having given a severe beating to the middle class and the low income groups during the last five years, has now vainly tried to impress the middle class whom it considers to be its constituency. But you, Mr. Finance Minister, with utmost humility, I would say, will soon realise that a little fiddling here and there cannot fob the intelligentsia of the country. You began your Budget speech detailing the often talked about *paanch* priorities, but have ultimately failed to address the same meaningfully.

You have talked of 'putting food in the stomach of the hungry and some money in the wallets of the poor'. But your proposals, permit me to say Madam, betray a lack of any such conviction or determination. It was because of the Green Revolution started by the visionary

Shrimati Indira Gandhi many decades back that we have surplus foodgrains in our kitty. It is a shame that despite that the poor for whom you are expressing concern today have to go to sleep with pangs of hunger.

The Government is concerned about growing unemployment. But where is that concern discernible in this Finance Bill? The largest generator of employment in the country is the agriculture sector. We all acknowledge that. But agriculture has been given short shrift. The Finance Minister sounds complacent with only making an allocation of Rs. 50 crore for what he calls the high-tech horticulture. The Government has ignored the investment requirements of agriculture. There are no incentives for investment in this sector, for diversification of crops, for improvement in varieties or quality of produce and for mechanised processing of procurement.

Madam, just a small rain the other day in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh has badly damaged the wheat crop which had been brought to the market and was awaiting procurement. This loss could run into over a hundred crore of rupees. Over the years, we have failed to grapple with the situation and make adequate arrangements for mechanised procurement of foodgrains. The decline in agricultural production by 3.1 per cent—that cannot be denied—has led to a slide in the GDP growth rate from the expected 5.6 per cent to 4.4 per cent. To correct this situation, some determined steps were expected of you, Mr. Finance Minister, in the Finance Bill. But the same is totally silent about it.

Then, there is a hype about the proposed partnership between the Government and the big houses in road building. I welcome that. But there is no such proposal for agriculture. That is the point that I wish to make.

The fate of the small scale industry is still worse. So far, it has been providing jobs to lakhs of people. But now since the poor do not figure in the scheme of things of the BJP, the small scale industry is bleeding to death. The exemptions to small scale industries are being withdrawn. They are being withdrawn at the bidding of the multinational which are out to gobble up our small scale industry so that no enterprising young man is left with an avenue to start a small enterprise of his own. Such people must be turned into simple sales girls and salesmen is, what the present advisors of this Government feel.

The small scale industry units are dying one by one unwept and unsung. This year alone, 75 more items have been withdrawn from the SSI reserved limit. The reason offered is WTO regime where these goods can be freely

imported. This, I would say with all humility, is a specious argument, to say the least. It could be disingenuous. Lakhs of workers, skilled, semi-skilled, unskilled are losing their jobs. Please imagine the amount of investment that will go waste and turn the educated entrepreneurs into paupers. To hit the SSI further, the value of exempted goods will henceforth be included for calculating the eligibility limit under SSI exemption.

Sir, the Government is anxious to widen the tax net. In principle, I support that. But I find the emphasis is totally misplaced or wrongly placed. I think there is no person in the country who does not pay tax in one form or the other. In fact, if you were to go by the percentage of one's income which is paid in the form of tax, either direct or indirect, it is the poor who are the most hard hit. Income-tax is just one of the many taxes. Given the economic conditions of the teeming millions of our country, and the inflation again raising its head, the anxiety to tax the maximum number of people is neither just nor equitable, I would say, when they have paid enough tax in various other forms.

In this connection, I would say that people have been, in fact, expecting of this Government that the exemption limit would at least be raised to rupees one lakh. It was the Members sitting on the other side now, from the ruling Benches, who had years back, led the people up the path of milk and honey promising them such an exemption. But four years down the lane, nothing like that has happened. Still, we have the same exemption limit making it extremely difficult for the people even to pay income-tax on the salary which they earn.

About surcharge, once the basis, the *raison d'être* of the surcharge is over, there is no justification whatever to retain the surcharge. Surcharge or a cess is a temporary measure. Mr. Minister, you cannot give a colour of permanence to it and to say that now it is for the people above the income of Rs. 5 lakh is not justified.

If we agree that the reasons and the circumstances which forced us to levy the surcharge then are no longer in existence, then certainly the surcharge has to go and we have to find other means to broaden the tax net, to improve the tax regime and, in that way, improve the revenue collection. In this regard, I would refer to the observations made by the Standing Committee on Finance. This is what they have to say and I quote:

"It is a matter of deep concern to the Committee that Budget Estimates were not being achieved in regard to revenue collection on income tax, corporate tax, central excise and customs duty."

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The Report further says:

"The continuous shortfall in realisations is a grave matter which calls for drastic measures. The Committee are not in agreement with the view of the Department that taxes are paid voluntarily by the tax payers and additional tax mobilisation efforts are not expected to result in a very substantial amount of revenue and the responsibility of the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax in the area of revenue mobilisation is limited. The Committee is of the view that such a serious matter is being taken by the Department casually."

This is what the Committee has to say. What we find here is that the Government is unable to fulfil its obligations and responsibilities in improving the tax collection system and the only thing they resort to is to tax the people. That is the minutes which has to be changed.

Madam, take the case of service tax. It has been increased from five per cent to eight per cent, a whopping increase of 60 percentage points. Look at the services which have been made taxable. The delivery of just one letter through a courier agency, a short journey through a tour operator who could be plying just a taxi, a person booking a small obituary notice in a newspaper, a student getting a passport size photograph or a film roll of his school excursion developed from a studio, a student seeking a private tuition to improve his performance in a subject, a person getting his pullover dry-cleaned, a person booking a rail ticket for even Rs. 200 through a travel agency etc., have come under the net of service tax. Even a housewife engaging a small time mechanic to repair her LPG stove under an agreement must also pay service tax now. And the list is endless.

We began the system of levying service tax in 1994 with only three services. I justify the imposition of service tax, but it is not to be levied on the most trivial of services. The Government should pick up services where big people are involved and where there are big services, like consultancy services running into crores of rupees, lawyer's fees, architect's fees, cost accountant's fees etc. and levy service charge on these services. But the Government wants to levy service charge on the most trivial and small time services which is not correct. The Government has gone with a magnifying glass and this is the research that it has come up with that any person they find being given some service in some form even for Rs. 10 or Rs. 100, they have taxed him. Imagine the

amount of paper work that would be involved and above all the rule of the mighty Excise Inspector would prevail and we will be able to do nothing. That is my concern about this. I think this is the hon. Minister's prescription for people-friendly and hassle-free tax regime.

Madam, creation of jobs is proclaimed as a major priority even under the *paanch* priorities. I will not refer to the big joke that the Prime Minister's one crore jobs a year has become. I will only refer to the hon. Finance Minister's defence of his concessions to car manufacturers saying that one car means job to 20 persons. I am sure the hon. Minister knows much more than me that only seven percent or so of the total work force is engaged in the organised sector and how many out of them are with the car manufacturers, I do not know. But I do know that 92 per cent who are in the unorganised sector receive only lip service from this Government. Today, it is not only the closure of the SSI industry which is leading to throwing out of those unskilled and semi-skilled workers, which I referred to, but even the big industrialists are throwing out their workers and despite that, this Government is eager to facilitate this process by amending the laws as required by these people.

Cars have been made cheaper. Yes. But for whom? For people who have money to burn, while the tax proposals which we have in the present Finance Bill will only inflate the price of every essential commodity that the poor and the middle classes need. You go through any provision, the long list of service taxes, the various other taxes imposed, the only net result would be that for everything the price would rise.

I welcome a step where it is said that the educational expenses on two children will be exempt from tax. That exemption should be granted, though I find that there is a flaw in it because it is said that it is for an individual. I think, it should have been for a family because that concession should not be given to more than two children in the family. That is how you can limit the size of a family and enforce the family planning laws. But I am on a different point. He is giving that concession to the students, but on the other hand he is making the students also to pay through their nose.

I referred to the example of photography, if a student wants a small photograph he has to pay more. I will also refer to the uniform that a school child has to buy. With all that, the hon. Minister is going to do to the textile sector, to the readymade garments, he will have to pay



more even for that uniform and even for the paper, for the notebooks. For that he has to pay more. So, the cumulative effect of everything is that the price of every commodity in the country will rise.

Madam, I referred to the philosophy of the Government, the underlying objectives of the Government. The proposals are pro-rich, there is no denying the fact. Look at any provision in the Bill. You will find that there is a pro-rich bias in this. That is why I referred to what the hon. Minister had to say when he began his Budget Speech. That the masses of the country are often overlooked. This is not to be so here", he said. The reality is otherwise. It is a pro-rich exercise.

Madam, it is perhaps a welcome step everywhere, but I would like to refer to that. The Finance Minister has waived tax on long-term capital gains on equities bought after March 1 this year. On the face of it is excellent and he would say that this is to boost the stock market. But the truth about the effect of this proposal is different. I am sure, Madam, the Finance Minister must be aware of the *jamma kharch* practice that goes on the country to launder money, to convert black money into white money.

Now, this is one provision where you exempt the long-term capital gains on equities. This is one provision which would give rather encouragement to that practice because the person who has much more money—I would not really like to go in details—and he would use this route. The brokers would come in, dummy companies would be floated or they may be already there; they would be listed on the stock market; their shares would be sold after a year when it gets the right to be termed as long-term capital, the prices of shares would be rigged. This would be resold for a premium and the result would be that the broker would be satisfied with his brokerage, with his commission, but the Government in the process would be deprived of a much as over 30 per cent of the tax revenue. This is what is going to be the effect of this, if I am not mistaken and if I am, I would urge the hon. Minister to explain this. Could this not be the possible consequence thereof? Madam, such an exemption was needed certainly for the Unit-64 investors and I welcome that. But in the case of gains on equities, which I have just tried to explain, the possible loss to revenue cannot be visualised.

Now, I would very briefly refer to excise duty. The excise duty is a levy which affects everybody in the country. I am happy that the other day the Finance Minister declared his intention to roll back his proposal to

withdraw exemption to small scale industry engaged in readymade garments. We have yet to know as to what really the details are. But I take it that he is going to announce it tomorrow or finally in some shape we would have it, before we are finally called upon to vote on the Finance Bill.

But, at the same time, Madam, this is a point which we have to emphasise because if that is not rolled back—that point was eloquently made by the other hon. Members speaking before me—then crores of self-employed families, who buy a cloth from the market and stitch clothes of a cheaper variety to be sold in fairs, to be sold on the roadside will be hard hit and the price also will rise tremendously for the ordinary consumer, including the student, I just adverted to.

Madam, the reason given by the hon. Minister the other day was that we have to prepare ourselves for the eventuality of the year 2005 when the multi-fibre agreement comes to an end and we have to be competitive. That is fine. But is the withdrawal of these concessions, is the withdrawal of these facilities to the segment of the people, who work hard with their own hands, the entire family engaged in a particular small business, is the withdrawal of the concessions to those families, the *mantra* of our being competitive? What the Government has to do to ensure that this sector becomes competitive is not the removal or withdrawal of these concessions, I must say this with all humility again.

I would say that it is irrational to treat the people coming from outside and making a shirt, using their brand name, which costs Rs. 2,000, with a person who makes a shirt for only Rs. 15/- or Rs. 100/- and people buy all those everywhere. Unfortunately, perhaps, Madam, those people do not figure in the scheme of things of this Government. It is only the rich people who have money to burn, as I said, people who can spend over Rs. 2,000 on a shirt, perhaps, they are the people figuring in their scheme of things.

I was again happy to hear the Finance Minister talk of revamp of the power-loom sector. That is fine. We would welcome that when we have the nitty-gritty or the details thereof. The power-loom again employs lakhs and lakhs of families across the country. In a small shanty of their own or in a small dwelling unit of their own, they have one, two, three or four small power-looms. Power-loom means just a little upgradation of handloom. They have a small machine on that and they work on it, and they would be put to excise duty. We learn from him saying that the hand processors would not be put to

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

excise duty charges but I find in the proposals somewhere that if steam is used anywhere in process, excise duty will be levied on it. Madam, this, I think, would certainly affect them. There was the assertion of none other than the Prime Minister that it has to be our endeavour to see that labour intensive industry gets due prominence, gets due share and the required emphasis from the Government, but the proposals that I find certainly would not lead us to that situation.

Edible oils, that is again something which affects the poor. I think, it is for the first time that edible oils are being subjected to eight per cent excise duty, if I am not mistaken. But the explanation given is that it is for oil "packed and branded". Madam, consumerism has been promoted by this Government in the country. Therefore, obviously even a man in the village would like to go to a shop to buy some edible oil, which he gets in a packet, whether it is a pouch or a small bottle, and certainly he does not go for what he normally had in the village earlier called '*kutchha ghan?*' mustered oil, where one *kolhu* extracted the oil. You do not find that anywhere. It is only that small brands, not the big brands. If I were to have a small expeller and I just give a brand name to it and put it in the market that would be actually subjected to excise duty. Who would be affected thereby?

It is not the manufacturers who would be affected but it is the people who would be affected because of that. Therefore, I make this point that something has to be done about it.

I do not know whether the hon. Minister considers this to be indulgence in luxury by the poor people if they go in for some small bottle of oil. Somehow, when the word 'refinery' is used therein, it is subjected to tax. While I have the highest regard for the Minister and also for his competence, I wonder whether he is also confusing or mixing up the petroleum products refinery with the mustard oil refinery as his colleague, Dr. Muri Manohar Joshi, is mistaking astronomy for astrology, I think it is something like that. If the word 'refinery' is used, it is subjected to tax. I have seen in eight feet by eight feet place, the refinery for mustard oil is put up.

In all fairness, I must acknowledge the reduction in excise duty on some goods. That is a welcome measure. But then, at the same time, I think what the consumer will gain on the swings, he is bound to lose on the roundabouts because under that Retail Selling Price regime, this gain of the consumer would be offset considerably by the five per cent lowering of the abatement rates on retail selling price. So, the benefit,

which is made out, which is projected to the world, is not what one would really get. That is what I feel.

When the hon. Minister talks of cash management to check expenditure, mismatch between receipts and expenditure, why should at all he go for that media cell which he wants for himself? The Geethakrishnan Committee Report has made very detailed recommendations asking the Government to shed flab, to reduce the number of incumbents wherever they are not required. Here, we have the hon. Minister going in for a specialised media cell headed by a senior officer. Why is that required? It is only to unleash the campaign of dis-information and misinformation. It is not really for getting to know what the people want. It is for trying to project figures or project something which really does not exist.

Let me now come to media advertisement. I know even the previous Government have been indulging in that. But I find this every day that the present Government has reached unprecedented levels in spending money on advertisements. I said it the other day. If a particular Minister has completed 100 days in office, you will have one full-page advertisement in newspaper proclaiming the achievements made by the hon. Minister. When the Government completes two years or three years or whatever years, whether you accept those figures or not, you have page in all the newspapers staring at you, saying this is the achievement of the Government. I think all this has to be done away with it.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: It is excepting the Finance Minister. I have not yet seen his advertisement.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I hope so. I must also admit that I have not seen his advertisement.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): This is because he is not photogenic.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: He is perhaps more photogenic than others, but he wants to avoid publication of his photograph. I would certainly approve of that. ...*(Interruptions)* I have quite a few points to make. I think we have enough time. But if you want I will make only one more point, that is, about the VAT because the hon. Minister referred to that. VAT is a thing which is required, which is called for, because it would lead to transparency and it would help avoid evasion of taxes. But then for a provision like this, you have to prepare the ground for that; you have to take the people along;

and you have to convince the people who would be required to implement this, who would be part of this scheme, that these are the benefits thereof. That has not been done. In the absence of that, it could only lead to chaos. We have in our country semi-literate people running one-man shops or may be, two people working at a shop. With this complicated taxation system, how would those people be really able to cope up with the requirement? If they are not able to cope up with the requirements, the inspector would have his way because I find that the input credit on certain items would not be available. Despite the self-assessment, etc. if all that were to be there, what benefit would the people get out of it? Therefore, I would only wish that this issue be tackled, but not in haste. You have to work it out and then convince the people about it that this is the thing. For that, you have got to bring about automatisation in your accountancy and in the offices. You have to improve the Government infrastructure. At the same time, you have to assure the people that you will not only just phase out the CST in some years but that it will be withdrawn immediately.

The hon. Minister of Finance would also have to assure us that the States would be persuaded to withdraw the entry tax, octroi and other such things.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: There are eight more hon. Members to speak from your party.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I would conclude.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You may please finish what you were saying.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Thank you very much, Madam. I have only one point to make. I was referring to dividend tax, which is the last point. I appreciate that the dividend in the hands of the recipient has been made tax-free. That was my demand last year. I had said that the recipient should not have to pay that but I find now again it would be the distributor of the dividend who would still have to pay 12.5 per cent. I think, this also needs a re-look because I think any tax on dividend would lead to double taxation. That is why I am appealing and I urge the hon. Minister of Finance to take appropriate steps in this direction.

Finally, I find the provisions in this Finance Bill to be only pro-rich. The poor-people about whom concern is expressed would not really benefit from any provision of this Finance Bill; rather they would find life more expensive to live in the days to come.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani): Madam Chairman, Sir a bill regarding financial proposal of the Union Government for the fiscal year 2003-2004 is being discussed here. I on my behalf and on behalf of my party Shiv Sena, support this Finance bill. It has been discussed a lot. The people of India live in rural villages. Most of the countrymen live in small villages and towns and pull on their lives by working in small and tiny industries. Seventy to eighty percent rural population depends on agriculture and agriculture related business. If we want to strengthen our economy, we will have to provide relief to our farmers and small agriculturist in the rural areas. If we do not do so, we cannot make our economy strong. This is what I can claim. I would not speak more but I would like to draw attention towards a few points.

In the budget presented by the Minister of Finance, excise duty has been imposed on powerloom, handloom, handicraft and readymade garments sector which employ the poor and handicapped people. These sectors play a vital role. Shiv Sena strongly oppose imposition of excise duty on Powerloom, readymade garments sector etc. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Who is going to listen to your protest. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: It will be heard. When the opportunity will come, we will make them to listen to it. The way the excise duty has been increased. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: There is none in the House from the Ministry of Finance. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is not present.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: If nobody is there to listen to the discussion on the Ministry of Finance, then how the order will be maintained.? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I am talking about the Ministry of Finance.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Two Ministers of State for Finance are absent. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Someone should remain present from the Ministry of Finance when such an important bill is being discussed.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The discussion is on the Finance Bill. The Minister of Agriculture is sitting here ...*(Interruptions)* Where the Finance Ministry people have gone? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: In his speech the Minister of Finance has stated that he is the son of a farmer. There are two-three categories. The Member of Lok Sabha Shri Sharad Yadav is also a farmer. But I would not discuss the problems of such big farmers here. There are medium category agriculturists having holding of five-ten acres. And there are farmers having one or two acre of land, their problems are the burning problems in the real sense. We met the Minister of Finance with a lot of problems. We have also met the hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. In his budget, the Minister of Finance has enhanced excise duty on powerloom handloom products and readymade garments. It is essential to withdraw this excise-duty. For this purpose, we, the people of Shiv Sena Party met the hon'ble Prime Minister under the leadership of our excise Chief Minister Narain Raneji and hon. Prime Minister assured us that excise duty would be withdrawn and small industries would be excluded from the excise duty. There are many problems in running the small industries because for producing a small item, a small toy for example, the unit owners have to move to four or five places and the inspectors create a lot of problems. As such, through you I would like to submit very humbly that the imposed excise duty be withdrawn from the powerloom, handloom, handicraft and readymade garments sector.

My party supports VAT. The Union Government and the States should essentially implement the VAT at an early date because the tax evaders will not get any opportunity to evade tax. There would be uniformity in the trading. Our budget would also get support. The VAT will prove beneficial to strengthen our economic policy. The Minister of Finance has called upon all the states to implement VAT at an early date because the outcome thereof would go a long way to strengthen our economic policy. It is not going to cause any harm.

16.00 hrs.

It would streamline the system and tax-evaders would not be able to evade tax. My party supports the VAT

and these Central and State Governments should take steps to implement the VAT as soon as possible.

In every State, the cooperative banks provide loans to the poor and farmers. These banks act as an intermediary to provide loans to them. There are major banks for the rich but only the cooperative banks are helpful for the farmers to enable them to purchase the agriculture equipments. However, at present the condition of these cooperative banks is not good. I want to cite an example from my Maharashtra State. In Maharashtra, the cooperative banks are involved in a scam totaling Rs. 280 crore. I raised this issue in the House time and again under the Rule 377 and Zero Hour but so far no concrete action has been taken. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister about the double controls at present being exercised on the cooperative banks. On the one hand, the Registrar of the State and on the other hand the Reserve Bank of India exercise control on the Cooperative Banks. The control of one agency should be done away with so that the responsibility could be fixed on one agency. In Maharashtra, Cooperative Banks were involved in a scam worth Rs. 280 crore. If one approaches the State Registrar, he directs to approach the Reserve Bank and the Reserve Bank in turn directs to approach the State Registrar. And this has led to the increase in the number of scams. My suggestion is if the Cooperative Banks are to be saved, which provide loans to small farmers, artisans and poor people, then we will have to hand them over to the Reserve Bank or the NABARD and we will have to do away with the system of State Registrar.

The third thing relates to the NPAs. If a poor farmer needs loan of one thousand, two or five thousand rupees for purchasing fertilisers or seeds, it takes atleast one-two month's time before the loan is sanctioned and that too after shelling out Rs. 1000 from the pocket. But against the big shots, who are plundering the country's wealth and have ruined economy, no action is taken. The money of Banks is deliberately being siphoned off. As of now the NPAs stand at Rs. one lakh ten thousand crore. The NPAs of public sector banks stand at Rs. 56 thousand crore and that of the commercial banks arrear and Rs. 70,000 crore. Similarly, the NPAs of the urban banks and that of the private banks total Rs. 18,000 crore and Rs. 4,000 crore respectively. In all, this figure comes to Rs. 110 thousand crore.

I would like to urge upon the Hon. Finance Minister that if we want to save our economy and if we want to take our country forward and if we want to achieve the targeted growth rate, then we will have to save our

country from these big thieves and send them behind the bars.

Sir, I through you, want to request that such people as are committing economic offences and those who are looting the country and those who are dishonest against them POTA should be enforced in order to make our economy vibrant and to strengthen the country as well.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): You want other people to be arrested under POTA, but do you not want Shri Vaiko, who was arrested under POTA, to be released?

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Madam, I had also demanded earlier that a list of such people should be declared. These people might include artisans, small traders and people engaged in handloom and powerloom sectors. I, through you, request the hon. Finance Minister that list of people against whom loans are outstanding should be declared. The entire country and the August House wants to know about these people. The reality is that a law already exists in this regard but it is not being enforced. We have had talks with the hon. Finance Minister on the issue of increasing amount under the MPLADS from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 3 crore. He said if the God ordains only then he would increase that amount. However, I want to request you to kindly check the burgeoning amount of the NPAs. It hardly matters whether you increase or not the amount under the MPLADS. NPAs have already reached 1 crore 10 thousand rupees. Please you have talks with the God immediately so that NPAs amount is recovered and utilised for the development of the country. There should be a provision in the law for the proper assessment of the property. A comprehensive Bill should be brought forward in this regard, so that strict action could be taken.

Madam, I would like to make one submission regarding small scale industries. The small scale industries situated in rural areas, be they block level units or taluk level units or spinning mills are adversely affected by the natural calamities. Therefore, I would like to request that a separate fund should be created to deal with this situation and to improve the condition of small scale industries.

In the last session, the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji had waived interest payable by the farmers on the loans taken by them. Loans have also been renewed. I think this temporary solution is not

going to improve the condition of the farmers. If we strengthen the economic condition of the farmers and if we strengthen the rural economy, the economy of our country would get strengthened. I have already spoken on this issue. If the small artisans are to be helped in the real sense, a long term policy should be formulated in this regard. Waiving their loan amounts temporarily would not improve their condition. They would somewhat get relief from that. I do congratulate the Government for this move. The Central Government should take concrete steps to bail the farmers out of the debt burden and also to strengthen the rural economy. I am very grateful to you for giving me a chance to speak on the Finance Bill.

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Madam, Chairperson, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill. I thank the hon. Minister for announcing several concessions in the Budget. Some of the hon. Members have termed the Budget to be an election stunt. All over the country traders and weavers are agitating against excise duty and VAT. Therefore, I fail to understand how it can be termed as an election Budget.

I would like to put forth some special points and one of them relates to the textile industry. Confusion is prevailing in this connection. I request the hon. Minister to make the position clear in this regard. I support the Finance Bill. The hon. Minister mentioned in the speech that exemptions would continue on the hand-processed textiles, provided power and steam are not used in processing. The hon. Minister in a statement on 25th mentioned that handloom sector is tax free and will remain tax free. However, the condition of weavers in powerloom sector is a matter of worry. The Government has dealt with the problems confronting the handloom and powerloom sectors, but what about the problems of weavers who fall in between and are defined in clause 130 of Finance Bill. I want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards that "If the Central Government subsidies that it is necessary to do so in the public interest, then in each case by special order, subject to circumstances of exceptional nature to be mentioned in such order, on any product on which excise duty is levied exemption from payment of excise duty be given on that product.

In 25 districts of the Poorvanchal region of Uttar Pradesh, in Salem district of Tamil Nadu and in other parts of the country also the handlooms are functioning which have been developed by the weavers by virtue of

[Shri Bal Krishna Chauhan]

their intelligence and experience. They do not fall under the power-loom category. Installing merely half an horse power motor would not render them power-looms. This has created fears among the entire weaver community there. They are confused and are agitating and sitting on hunger strike continuously for the last one month. The Hon. Finance Minister had given an assurance on 25th April and despite that they are on strike.

Madam Chairperson, I hail from Mau region of Uttar Pradesh where Mubarkpur and Azamgarh district are the centres of Banarasi saris. Beside that, Adari Validpur, Mohammadabad, Khairbad, Puraghat, Koparganj areas are also weaver-dominated areas. All the weavers there closed down their units and are agitating on streets from 7.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. So this should be taken congruence of since these handlooms do not fall under the powerloom category. In powerlooms, beams are used and 500 to 600 saris are manufactured daily because their speed is more. We have weavers in the Poorvanchal region and in other parts of the country. I would like to dwell at length about the conditions prevailing in the handloom industry. The excise duty is already chargeable on the yarn used by the handloom sector. First, a weaver prepares yarn on a spinning wheel with the help of a cone and then that yarn is dyed and reeled to weave cloth. Beam is not utilised in wearing cloth. That is the reason, the production of powerlooms is different. They can produce a saree not of 10 colours, but of thousands of colours. Yarn is dyed in various colours and it gives a different finish altogether. It is not proper to term the looms as being motorised. I would like to cite an example in support of my contention.

It has been the tradition of our country that the village potter makes the earthen pots on the potter's wheel. Thereafter the pots are put into the fire for drying before being sold to the consumer. However, with the scientific inventions that are taking place now-a-day the potter uses half-horse power motor alongwith a belt to lessen the manual labour and this cannot be called mechanisation. This has been done for the convenience of the human beings. The half-horse power motor which has been installed by the weavers in Poorvanchal region is of very slow speech. In all only 30-40 sarees are weaved with this process. At the end of the day only one-two sarees are manufactured whereas in powerlooms, 30 sarees are manufactured in a single day. Therefore, this product should be treated as an exception and it should be exempted from excise duty in the finance Bill as an exceptional case. The Government should give an assurance that a notification would be issued to exempt the products manufactured with the help of half horse

power motor from excise duty. The fears of the weavers should be dispelled so that they could resume production

**SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur):** If these products are not exempted?

**SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN:** Even then, I will support the Finance Bill. Similarly, women are making readymade garments as a means of self-employment in villages. They are making garments for children, petticoats and blouses for women. They cannot give the account of excise duty, that is why, it is to be kept in mind that it should be recovered from bigger companies those who own trade mark. This norm should not be prescribed that when the production has been completed say garments have been manufactured then duty will be charged on every stage of the process. That is why it is my request that they may be exempted from paying VAT.

Madam Chairman, we have laid special emphasis on the handloom sector which is being considered powerloom. It should be taken into notice, since cloth is the basic necessity of man. Air, water and food are natural basic necessities of man. Man can live without food for a day or two, but cannot live without clothing for even a minute that is why clothes are needed by the entire human society. If excise duty will be increased on garments then manufacture of textiles would become costlier for children and the poor people and will not thrive in competition.

I would like to make a request as regards the demand by the weavers. It is regarding tax reduction from 24-30 percent to 16 per cent on cotton. What was the need of reducing the tax. It has shown resentment in weaver community and they feel that they have been burdened by making reduction in tax. Thus, it would not be human to snatch morsel out of someone's mouth. There is a need to understand this situation between handloom and powerloom in public interest.

We have many a thing in our country running through maneuvering. Here life is managed through all sorts of skilful maneuver. If you see the vehicle of farmers, you would neither call it tractor, jeep nor a trolley. We would call it jugad automobile. Similarly, we have 'assembled looms' running in our country. They may not be treated as powerlooms Hon. Minister had given this assurance to exempt the small self employed persons in decentralisation. But if the loom would be operated by motor or steam then excise duty would be levied on it, this is entirely misreading. Therefore, hon. Minister must clarify it today so as to dissipate all sorts of Confusions about whether the decentralised looms are to be

considered powerlooms or not or where these looms are centralised and the entire machinery is assembled, there excise duty will be levied as reported by the newspapers. Since if the excise duty would be levied on a trader where all these decentralised machinery is assembled it would not be fair. It should not take place because hon. Minister has stated that excise duty will never be levied on handloom textiles nor it has ever been levied. So, where the handloom textile would be collected on a shop and supposing 200 sarees are purchased by hundred men having one or two looms then excise duty will not be levied on it since it is not a powerloom product. That is why I would again make a humble request that hon. Minister may specify it so that the people may return to their work. People are on agitation and have struck work and are waiting for the matter to be settled till the meeting on the 30th thereafter a decision would be taken. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Finance Bill, introduced by the hon. Finance Minister.

In fact, this is the second Finance Bill during the Tenth Five Year Plan. I congratulate him for having formulated policies which were recommended by the Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan.

The Approach Paper to the Tenth Five Year Plan which was presented to the National Development Council suggested objectives of doubling the per capita income to get the average growth rate of eight per cent over the Tenth Five Year Plan. To make this feasible, a lot of targeted areas have been taken up through this Finance Bill, like poverty reduction, employment creation and improvement in certain critical indicators to improve quality of life. These include health, environment and education indicators. It has been seen that the Opposition has been lambasting our Government that we have not been able to achieve anything in four years. We have tried our best and our Government is trying its best. The hon. Prime Minister has also made an announcement that by 2020, India will be a developed country. Our approach to financial problems is also based on that methodology.

It has been seen that our country did not take off as it should have after the Independence. Take the case of irrigation. Since Independence, after the establishment of the Constitution in 1951, we have been able to irrigate only 40 per cent of the agricultural land in the country. There have been massive regional disparities, regional

imbalances. Take the case of my State, Orissa. Till today, the economic indicators show us that 47.7 per cent of the population of Orissa is below the poverty line. That means, every second person in Orissa is poor. There has been a lot of regional imbalance since long. It is not the doings of last four years. Our Government is trying to bring parity among all the State so that not only interstate but intrastate regional imbalance is not there and the wealth of the country is equitably distributed to the distress pockets of the country.

The Finance Bill envisages this and that is why so much of money has been put into the rural development sector. A lot of money has been put into PMGSY. There is a massive programme of inter-linking of rivers with a cost estimates of Rs. 5,60,000 crore. We have decided to increase production of electricity to one lakh MW. Direct Electricity Bill was brought because the State Electricity to one lakh MW. Direct Electricity Bill was brought because the State Electricity Boards were running in losses amounting to about Rs. 36,000 crores a year. We have tried to change it into a Regulatory Council by which we could get more electricity, which is a very important infrastructure for the development of a country and of a State.

Irrigation potential is there in our country. The potential for generation of electricity is there in our country. But till date we have been able to generate only 2.4 per cent of the electricity through nuclear energy. We have found out that nuclear plants after going critical are safe. They will not pollute the atmosphere. Nuclear waste can be managed properly. New technologies have been developed. So, why have we been able to generate only 2.4 per cent of the electricity, out of the total electricity generated in the country, through nuclear energy? This sector has to be explored. An initiative has to be taken for generating electricity through nuclear power. When the hon. Finance Minister will reply to the debate, I hope he will throw some light on this particular form of electricity generation.

Our Government wants to implement the 73rd and 74th amendments of the Constitution relating to the Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban bodies with utmost sincerity, which the previous Governments never did.

They never had Panchayat elections. For so many years, there was no three-tier Panchayati system in Bihar. So, how could the money which has been sent for rural development, for creation of Self-Help Groups, and for rural employment generation be spent? Therefore, in true spirit, the 73rd and 74th amendments should be

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

implemented so that the development process of the country could be further de-centralised. All the important targeted areas of development like education, health, poverty eradication, and food security should be properly managed by this three-tier Panchayati institutions. Our Government has taken the ship of development in that direction and has developed a lot of powers to the Panchayat Raj so that the rural economy becomes strong and vibrant. It is because 70 per cent of population lives in rural areas. They depend on agriculture.

When I talk of rural areas, there are a lot of impediments like natural disaster. Previously, natural disasters were tackled in a transient manner. But the time has come that disaster management should be done. It should have been thought of by the previous Governments but they never thought in that direction. They thought of politicising the floods and drought. They tried to make it a vote catching machine. But our Government would like to change the process. We would like to see that the disaster should be managed properly. The disaster management is the need of the hour today. We lose thousands of crores of rupees which stagnates and retards the growth of the economy of the country. So, disaster management should be a prime targeted area with a targeted approach so that poor States like Orissa do not suffer in future. We had cyclone. Now we are having recurring droughts. Now, let us see if the crops are good after good nine years. Again we got drought. So, such disasters are just not managed when they come. It has to be planned well before. The disaster might be coming. So, we should be prepared to meet that challenge. We should have a security shield for our farmers and poor people. That security shield farmers and poor people. That security shield was lacking. I remember the days of 1965-66 drought and 1985-86 drought when people had to sell their children in certain parts of India. Our economy has not grown. The farmers are denied water.

The Government wants to boost the economy of the farmers therefore it is giving a log of loans to them. It is insuring their crops and timely loans are also given. The Kisan Credit Cards have been made so that the credit flow is easy for them and they can improve their economic conditions. When the farmer cannot pay back his loan and he is affected by disasters, then what does he do? He is driven to commit suicide. But it is not the doing of the last four years. It has been a continuous process. From 1951 onwards, the rural sector has been neglected. You created public sector undertaking giants and *Navaratnas*. Today, the Economic Survey says that the gross non-performing assets (NAPS) of scheduled

commercial banks increased by Rs. 7164 crore to Rs. 70,905 crore while the net NPAs increased by Rs. 3,084 crore to Rs. 35,000 crore in 2000-01. So, this has been the recurring loss of NPAs since the days of previous Governments and not this Government alone.

Now this Government is trying to streamline the things. This Government is trying to bring the Disinvestment Policy on track. There was so much of criticism in the House from the Opposition benches on this. The Opposition stalled the proceedings of the House for no less than 15 days on the issue of disinvestment of BALCO. Crores of rupees were wasted because of the stalling of the proceedings of the House. Today BALCO has been taken over by M/s Sterlite in Korba. The same Chief Minister—I should not take his name since he is not present here in the House—had opposed the disinvestment of BALCO. They said then that they would not like to privatise BALCO since it was situated in a tribal area. But today the same administration in Chattisgarh has given more land to M/s Sterlite because they want to spend another Rs. 5,000 crore on the modernisation of BALCO. This clearly provides the turncoat policies of the Opposition. M/s Sterlite has now been invited because they wish to spend some Rs. 5,000 crore for the modernisation of BLACO, since no worker at the Korba unit of BALCO has been retrenched.

Madam, another issue that was raised here was about Modern Bakery. That company is doing pretty well. Not a single worker has been retrenched there and not a single inch of land has been sold because it is a vibrant industry and is making a lot of profit. In the present global scenario, these are policies that are new to this country. We have a WTO regime now. This country was introduced to the WTO regime by the Congress Government in 1993. Shri Pranab Mukherjee was the then Commerce Minister and he had been the signatory, if I am not mistake, to the Uruguay Round of talks. At that time they never thought of the farming community. The agreement on agriculture was left blank. Nothing was written on it. At Doha, a Ministerial team, representing this Government, had tried their best to put forth the views of India, but after that no concrete steps have been taken in this regard. The developed countries are trying to overrule us. They are not cutting down on their subsidies, but they are asking us to cut down on our subsidies. This is not a folly of this Government but this is a folly of the Governments that preceded this Government. Those things would have to be corrected.

The hon. President of India has invited us for breakfast the other day and we had gone to the Rastrapati Bhawan to attend to that. He mentioned that he also



had a vision of seeing India as a developed nation. Would we always like to remain as a developing nation and to become a developed nation, the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission should be implemented in letter and spirit. Here I would like to mention that the hon. Finance Minister, in right earnest, has come up with 160 amendments to the Finance bill and these are all vital amendments that touch upon the interests of the handicrafts sector, the primary sector and the basic sector of the economy as a whole and is vital to the rural economy in particular.

Let us, for example, take the gems and jewellery sector. It has been mentioned in para 20 that manufacturers and producers shall induce cutting and polishing of precious and semi precious gem stones and further amendments have been made in that respect for making it more simple so that there is boost in this trade because gems and jewellery are the highest foreign exchange earner in this country after tea and coffee. Similarly, the Minister has added VAT—Value Added Tax. Any product that is manufactured, to which some value is added during its processing, a tax will be charged with a ceiling at 12.5 per cent. It is not going to be increased to more than that. Here, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider his decision and to go deep into this matter. A vast workforce in the disorganised sector like the handloom sector and the rural artisan sector, houses of gems and jewellery, which have also come under the handicraft sector, should be given some relief. Otherwise this sector will die down. They are the heart of the Indian economy. The rural artisans like potters and blacksmith who are associated with the rural trade are famous throughout the world and we earn billions of dollars in exporting these handicraft items. Therefore, they should be further encouraged.

The Minister should look at it and delve into the matter once again. I will give an example. If a particular produce is being carted from one place to another, after carting if the cartage is treated as a value addition to that produce, then it enhances the cost of the produce thereby reducing the marketability of that product. So, considering all these factors, I think the hon. Minister will have a second look at it so that the poor artisans in the country do not get puzzled by the procedural formulas which will be put into the value addition of tax.

Before I conclude my speech, I would request the hon. Finance Minister that in the distribution of funds there should be no regional imbalance. I thank the Minister for the debt swap scheme that he has initiated in order to see that the financial burden on the States will come

down by nearly Rs. 51,000 crore. Therefore, it is a kind of soft loan that the States get which they can repay later.

Today, you will be surprised to know that in most of our high schools which are recognised by the Government, teachers have not been paid their salaries for the last seven to eight years after they have become eligible to get paid. In the State of Orissa, the teachers get a monthly payment out of donations and tuition fees etc. of only Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. I am sure, this must be the case in other States also. Private colleges have been recognised by the Government, but the lecturers are getting only Rs. 500, though they are eligible to get full UGC scale. These are the problems being faced by the States. Therefore, I am sure, this debt swap will help in building up the resources of the States.

Besides, the State of Orissa is rich in minerals. Seventy-five per cent of the chrome ore of the country exists in Orissa. But the saddest part of it is that all the minerals which are found in Orissa are sold in their raw material form. There is no value addition to them. We do not have industries. I do not know why Orissa was neglected all these years. We have got a massive seacoast and the marine industry could be a very fertile and rich industry there. We have got the largest mineral resources in the form of chrome ore, gemstone, iron-ore and manganese. You name the ore and we have it in Orissa. We have even got Uranium in Jaduguda in Jharkhand. Today, we are generating electricity from nuclear energy, which accounts for only 2.4 per cent of the total electricity generated.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Madam Chairman, I would like to disclose everything during the discussion on Finance Bill. I would like to state the three precious principles, out of which the very first principle is of levying tax.

"Nadiyak pani nadiye jo hamra dunga Sukhaylo" meaning levying tax on people and spending them only. Second principle is of tax collection. The way honey bee and black bees collect honey and pollen from a flower without disturbing its petals similarly if tax is collected from people having an income in such a manner that it would not disturb them much. The basic idea is if such people would be ruined then from whom you would be collecting the tax. Third principle is rule of the masses. Thereby

[Dr. raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

meaning that if tax is reduced on products that are largely consumed by people of lower income group and is increased on luxurious items. I do not think that it is an uncompromising proposition which really need to be worked out ingeniously. It is a very simple thing. But how is it happening I would like to disclose everything.

The items which are used by common people should be made cheaper and the luxurious items should be made costlier. You have made car cheaper, reduced the price of air conditioners which is hardly used by common man. Who consumes imported liquor and why was it made cheaper? I would like to ask all these questions? It is because imported liquor is consumed by people like the hon. Minister himself. That is why it has been made cheaper. I wish to submit that earlier Cheliah Committee and then Kelkar Committee were set up. They recommended to levy tax on farmers and the dividend earned by the capitalists should be made tax free. This has been accepted by hon. Finance Minister. How unfair it is. There is tax on income but no tax on dividend. What is the reply to all this? A person who earns is taxed and a person who enjoys the benefits is exempted. Hon. Minister had exempted that dividend.

Secondly,

[English]

Abolition of tax on long-term capital gains on sale of shares.

[Translation]

Why did you waive this tax? Waiver is for people who are reaping the dividend and who are exploiting and levy is on the poor, on the items like diesel, kerosene fertiliser etc. which is consumed by common man. You can see it yourself that there has been an increase on the purchase of cars while the sale of tractors has declined because the condition of farmers is deteriorating. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: But exemption will not be given on tractor. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: All these are basic things. I leave it all on these wise men that they may see it according to the percentage. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): Tax would be levied on lathi as well. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Who is oiling the lathi. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It is being strengthened by oiling. ...*(Interruptions)* The same way is

VAT i.e. Value Added Tax. The value was not added on the production of item but value Added Tax has been levied, that is why there is an uproar. Hon. Minister has claimed that it has been introduced after taking consent from the Chief Ministers of all the States. Protests began in every state and markets were closed. And in their crowd, I wonder how they all agreed. The State Government. Protests began, it has been deferred now. It is being said that the Baniya Community voted them to power, we are treating them and to cool them these people have come here. What concession did you give to the farmers? It is being said that Agriculture Minister who imposes all these tax was approached and then he withdrew all these taxes. Why then tax is being imposed on Zero tiller machine being used by farmers. Why it is not abolished? Everything is done to suit the interests of big corporate and the farmers are hard pressed. It is being said that W.T.O. agreement was signed with a view to compete with the American farmers. Where as the price of Zero tiller machine, ploughing machine, coloured machine and even cutter machine etc. has all been increased and the sale of tractors has declined. Efforts should be made to make all these implements tax free.

The industries of the North-East and small-scale industries all over the country met their death at the instance of multinationals which are in monopoly here. If small scale industries thrive then people will get employment, there will be production they will have world market as well but the Multinationals do not want the small scale industry to survive. That is why excise duty is imposed on them and various other taxes are being imposed to throttle them. Small scale industries are becoming sick and multinationals are thriving. We shall see to it that country's interest is held uppermost on all the testing stones. What are your policies in the interest of poor people, for the development of farmers. I am seeing all around me that foreign capitalists are being hailed, black marketeers are being hailed whereas farmers and labourers are suffering and losing.

Discussion has been going on Finance Bill for several days. Excise duty was waived in Northeast so that the industry may grow there, the labourers were working in unison in the pan masala industry and tobacco cultivation. But the facility which was given to them has been withdrawn, it was that it will be given with retrospective effect. Shri Somnath Chatterjee is a Marxist leader, he wrote a letter. Their Minister Dr. C.P. Thakur is Minister of Small Scale industries and of North-east. He also wrote a letter to the Finance Minister. I do not know what action will be taken on that letter. When the issue of North East is raised then people come and say we do not have any problems. Minister of Finance may tell that what was the problem that the facility given to the people of North east was withdrawn. Do you want the people of North-East to die? In 1998 the facility awarded by hon. Prime Minister was withdrawn. I do not know what hidden forces are working behind with a view to eliminate small

scale industries and labourers that they may be discouraged, disillusioned.

I have heard that Kelkar is from I.M.F. and World Bank. He used to work there although I do know the details. He is from that lobby and is their advisor. I wish to make an appeal to this August House to reflect a little on the condition of farmers, labourers who earn whatever little with their sweat and blood, these things should be distinctly understood that how the country would survive without these people. Their tax system has been a failure. In 1952-54 there was an estimate of black money to the tune of Rs. 600-700 crore. There is a black money amounting to Rs. 600-700 crore and it is constantly increasing and it is evident from the IMF report too. Parliamentary Standing Committee, several scholars and professor Arun Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University have all pointed out that there is a black money amounting to rupees eight lakh crore. It is an undisclosed money and what actions have been taken to unearth this money. You are taxing the masses, especially the poor but please let us know what action has been taken to unearth the black money amounting to Rs. eight lakh crore. This has resulted into the poor economic scenario in the country. It is being said that a committee will be constituted to enquire into the matter. Several Committees have been constituted but the black money is continuously inflated in the last 25-30 years. What action are being taken by the Government to extract this money. The country and its citizens are questioning the tax system in which riches becoming richer and poor more poor. Likewise it was being said that we have non-performing assets worth 1.5 lakh crore. Capitalists, CII and business tycoons have shattered the Indian economy. If the farmers and unemployed persons of rural areas borrows money, every effort is made to recover the loan amount from them. He is frightened all the time. Laws are there for the poor, labourers, farmers, who have an outstanding of Rs. 1000, 2000, 5000 or 10,000 only but no action is being taken against those tycoons and multinationals who have grabbed one and a half lakh crore rupees. They do not come under the purview of any law. If the debtor is poor he has to face humiliation. His property will be attached and all other possible action will be initiated against him, but the Government is taking no action against capitalists who have plundered millions. We must bring all these anomalies in light. There is an outstanding amount of 62,000 crore against income tax head which has been misappropriated. What actions are being taken by the Government to recover the same? A case in respect of excise duty worth 1550 crore rupees was filed. We would like to know the status of this case. Thus the provisions of Finance Bill are so hotchpotch that the tax evaders would be benefited and more tax would be levied on tax payers. It is neither in the interest of people nor will improve the economic condition of the country. Tax collection incurred a loss of 40 thousand crores out of which 22000 crore are against dividend only. How the people are tolerating this. Tax evaluation lobby is so

strong. On our request to hon. Finance Minister a sub transmission scheme of rupees of 365 was approved under National Development Plan for Bihar. The work on the project was to be commenced but one of your officers made objection, we requested him twice, he says it will be referred to cabinet, whether all the laws are applicable only to this particular project. Meanwhile the monsoon would be over and the prices would go up again. Why this project could not be started? The Government says that directives were issued but the officers did not agree. The Planning Commission fails to decide what is to be done now. The work on the project was to be commenced immediately. The farmers are not getting sufficient electricity supply. In site of surplus power in transmission instant sector.

17.00 hrs.

If the transmissions line are repaired, the village farmers can get round the clock power supply. I think the Government should not have any objection to this. Funds approved under National Integrated development scheme by Government of India, must be provided to State Government. It has been learnt that the proposal will be submitted to cabinet. Two and a half year have already been elapsed and nobody knows how many years would be required to grant approval. I will leave it on to the hon. Finance Minister to decide things about Bihar. State Government are provided the funds for centrally sponsored projects. Cess on petrol and diesel in Bihar contributes a lot to the Government exchequer. The roads in rural areas in a dilapidated condition. Bihar did not receive a single pie from Central Road Fund. The condition of state highways and national highways in the Bihar are worst. As the State Government is not in a position to get repaired all these highways, therefore the Centre must provide some assistance. At last Bihar should be given its share from Central Road Fund.

In the last three years the allocation under Rural Development Scheme in Bihar has been curtailed by rupees 301 crores. Rs. 130 crore from Indira Avas Yojana, rupees 96 crore from Sampooran Gramin Rojgar Yojana, rupees 38 crore from Swaran Jayanti Sawarojgar Yojana, rupees 37 crore drinking water scheme were also deducted. thus total deduction was rupees 301 crore. All this money have been provided to developed states. The funds directly goes to DRDA. It is said that a particular DRDA has neither spent funds properly nor submitted accounts. If the funds are not utilised by a particular district of Bihar then it should be diverted to other district but here the curtailed allocation has been given to the developed States. Here in Delhi the Government discriminates against Bihar. Bihar is being deprived of its share. On this point, we are organising a rally in Bihar on 30th April. The people of all parts of Bihar will come to attend the rally. Bihar constitutes 10 per cent of total population of the country. Bihar has a significant role as far as the progress of the country is concerned. The nation cannot progress unless development of Bihar is

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

ensured. If an sociologist claims that the nation can progress leaving aside Bihar, he is wrong. Bihar was allotted rupees 12,000 crore during Seventh Five Year Plan but a lot of money remained unutilised, Likewise, during Ninth Five Year Plan rupees 16,000 crore were allotted to Bihar out of which rupees 10,000 crore were utilised. Every year, the allocation against centrally sponsored scheme in Bihar are being curtailed by Rs. 1100 crore. 364 schemes are covered under this scheme, allocation for them too is being curtailed. We are not getting sufficient funds and it is being said that funds are not utilised. We pay three thousand rupees as tax along with penalty interest on it. The backward States need special attention. Today, backward States are experiencing regional imbalance due to discrimination. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to remove the regional imbalance.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad): These poor even do not get oil for themselves and oiling your sticks.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD: It is being done to save the nation.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair and conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH; I am just concluding. Shri Shah Navaz Hussainji and Shri Ramjeevan Singhji are present here. All the MPs from Bihar met the hon. Prime Minister and a memorandum was given to him which contained the demand to write off the loan against Bihar since the State is being deprived of its share.

My submission is that loan against Bihar should be written off because the schemes of the Central Government in the State are being slashed. You are giving blind support to Government. The Minister from Bihar are serving the Central Government by ignoring the interest of the people of Bihar. My first submission is to write off the loan against Bihar and second one is to grant special status to Bihar. Bihar fulfills the five conditions of criterion laid down by National Development Council. The State of Bihar along with Jharkhand had received money recommended by 10th Finance Commission for the year 1996-97. Panchyat elections were held in Bihar not in Jharkhand. Even then our allocation was curtailed. The Government of India withhold four hundreds twenty five crore rupees as recommended by 10th Finance Commission.

It is said that flood causes damage to the tune of rupees 1200 to 1500 crore. I would like to ask whether Indo-Nepal agreement is under the jurisdiction of Bihar Government. The Kanwar Sen Committee had recommended that the issue of flood control is beyond the means of State Government. The Himalayan rivers i.e. Gandak, Bagmati and Kamala-Balan and international rivers originating from Nepal every year damage the property worth rupees 12 to 15 hundred. Even districts

located at three side of state are affected by flood, drought and 10 lakh hectare band under water-logging. Floods, drought and water logging are four major natural hazards which are disastrous to Bihar. Government of India has a solution to this problem. If all these problems are not addressed the regional imbalance would further widened and that would not be in the interest of nation. The Constitution also envisage that the backward States be brought in main stream by providing facilities to them. Bihar is being deprived of its share hence the State is lagging behind. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is an elected Chairman of our district Vaishali. Seven crore rupees under 'Sampoorn Gramin Rojgar Yojana' have been granted by our district. According to the district administration the money has been sent. They say they have not received the money. Hence there was a slashing of rupees seven crore in a single scheme. Likewise, Muzaffarnagar district have been deprived of rupees 16 crore under Indira Avas Yojana and one crore and 94 lakh rupees from Sampoorn Gramin Rojgar Yojana has been deducated. The MPs have been deputed as Chairman and vice-Chairman there. If curtailment will continue like this, the district Councillor and MLA will hoot the Members of Parliament and hold us responsible for the curtailment. The allocation to Assam and West Bengal has been curtailed by rupees 100 crore. Even the share of U.P. and some other States was also deducted. My submission is that the interest of the MPs should be safeguarded. Otherwise from Mukhiyaas to MLAs will hoot and humiliate MPs. Therefore it is our earnest request that MPs should be saved from this humiliation and Centre must withdraw the curtailment. The Centre is claiming to be a donor by depriving the other States of their due share. This will not be tolerated. I would conclude by saying that the Finance Bill is anti-poor and pro-rich. The Government should review it and this Bill should not be allowed.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jhanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill. Though exhaustive speeches have been made by the hon. Members I would also like to express my views briefly.

Madam, Swami Sahaja Saraswati, the leader of farmers gave the slogan at the time of Independence he rules the country, who provide food and clothing, the country belongs to him only who is concerned about its progress. Even after such a long period after Independence, the country is far behind the objective of the slogan. Even after 55 years of Independence, despite oratory of Shri Raghuvansh Prasad and Shri Arun Kumar, the condition of our villages is worst and people at large are suffering terrible. Today, sugarcane farmers are being ruined.

17.12 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

We all agree that crores of people are engaged in powerloom sector. The condition of powerloom sector in

Gaya region near my constituency also deteriorating. The condition of weavers is also continuously deteriorating. Tax levied in this regard will certainly ruined them. Imposition of this tax lead to further unemployment. I fail to understand why Government wants to increase the number of unemployed persons. I would like to thank Finance Minister for the roll back on fertilizer and would request him to do the same here also. Weavers too belongs to farmers category. The problem of 80 per cent of weavers population is before him. He will definitely address the problem of weavers because whenever we visit our constituency, the problem is before us. Whosoever may be in power they are certainly influenced by the pessure of multinational companies and capitalists. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad had also a Minister and is well-aware about this. I suggest that we should come out of this pressure.

Madam, likewise, there is a problem of VAT also and as a result thereof, the things are getting worst. If a rationalised system is being formulated then the Government should surely implement it effectively. On this issue, if the matter of bringing farmers in tax-net is raised then it is not emphasised so strongly. What is its' dominant factor? To y, sugarcane growers are dying and hon. Akhilesh ji often raises their plight strongly in the House. The matter has been raised many times in the House but it has been of no use. A committee was constituted for this purpose represented by Members only from U.P. This is not the problem of farmers of U.P. alone. It is a common problem of sugarcane growers all over the states including Bihar and Haryana. Therefore, the committee should be represented by Members from all the states and mill-owners should also be called so that the problem can be resolved.

Jadhav ji was talking about NPA. It involves an amount of about Rs. 80,000 crore. As per my information Rs. 25,000 crore are under litigation and Rs. 56,000 crore is due towards corporate Houses. It is an irony that out of this large amount Rs. 8245 crore were waived off during last two years. As far as farmers are concerned, they are not given any kind of relief. British era laws exist in the country even today. When hon. Nitish Kumar ji of my party was Minister of Agriculture, this issue was raised. He had said that time that he will write to the State Governments. If a farmer becomes defaulter he is sent to jail and entire expenditure incurred during his stay in jail is charged from him. Though many years have elapsed since independence yet, such type of laws still exist. Hon. Minister of Agriculture, who is a son of the Leader of farmers, is sitting here. I would request him to pay attention to it. If an offender is sent to jail under any other section the Government bear the expenditure incurred on him, but if a defaulter farmer is sent to jail he has to bear the expenses. What happened to the letter written to the State Government in this regard, it was of no use. If we want to strengthen the nation we will have to recognise the role of rural India. Many people from village sacrifice their lines for the sake of nation.

The dedication towards science and education comes more from rural folk and people with urban mentality lack all this. If we want to build a strong India we will have to strengthen our villages. The slogan of Kisania and Karkhania used by Dr. Raghuvansh Babu has been in prominence since Lohia's time. There should be adjustment between these two. A large number of people are fleeing villages. How this exodus can be checked? Unless it is checked it will create anarchy in cities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, several people have been massacred in my constituency: Jahanabad is quite notorious for naxalism and private army. If you tour that area, you would hardly find a farmer with as large holding as 4000 acre land, you would find farmer with only 2, 3 or 4 acre of land and they are falling prey to violence. They are unemployed. There are no schools in that area and no arrangement for irrigation. Even industries are on the verge of closure because of burden of tax. People have no edible oil for cooking meals but oil is used for Lathis. I am raising this issue because the state was supposed to have been developed fully, equipped with modern facilities whereas its economic condition is getting worse. Bihar was called Best Governed State during 1952-57 whereas anarchy prevails all over the state today. If we keep blaming the Central Government for it, it will not do.

Rs. 350 crore were allocated to Bihar under 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna' whereas Rs. 48 crore only could be spent. How this state will be developed? Though everyone knows it, yet it is everyone's compulsion. Food for Work is a centrally sponsored scheme. After a long time a democratic pattern was developed in Bihar. After Panchayat election, under Food for Work programme a truckload of rice was lifted from a shop and resold there itself. That truck was seized by the Commission and it was in the police station for four days. A State Minister told Commission, Collector and S.P. that no FIR should be lodged in this regard. It was reported in the newspapers. What shall be the fate of such a state? Can one imagine about such Centrally Sponsored Scheme? What for this lathi is? Is it to be used against poor, dalits etc?

Indira Awas Yojna is grossly misused. Five members per family of Government employees club together and garnered Rs. one and half lakh under this scheme and have constructed their houses. Though this scheme is meant for poors, dalits and for those living below poverty line. But only mighty persons have got Red Card. One cannot imagine, when muscle power plays its role where the Centrally sponsored schemes will stand? Therefore, my submission is that the Central Government should not depend upon the State Government. It should develop a mechanism itself whereby a state can be taken out of anarchy. Saying that administration in the state is not good is not going to solve any problem and also, it is not in the interest of the nation. I would like to say that as per a recently conducted survey Northern Bihar, where

[Shri Arun Kumar]

river water from Nepal plays havoc, has a potential of one lakh and twenty five thousand to one lakh fifty thousand MW power generation and the Government should take it seriously. The Government should underline the left over works and should implement this scheme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would conclude with one point and I respect the bell. Education is the backbone of democracy. The Government of India have introduced a Shikshak scheme. It seems that the Government have launched it merely to fulfil its dreams. Though the Government have resolved to undertake 'Sarv Shiksha', yet how the Government would implement it seems difficult. It is as good as pushing towards darkness. In my state unskilled labour get daily wages at the rate of Rs. 70-80 whereas the Government wants to employees M.A., B.A. pass teachers as Shikshak Mitra for Rs. 2200 per mensem. I think, this approach of panchayat to restore Shikshak Mitra is going to create a serious crisis. The State Government has destroyed the education system. If the Central Government want to employ a successful teacher by paying such meagre salary then I am sure that Central Government's resolution regarding providing education to all, the poors, slum-dwellers, children of farmers will never be completed. Therefore, my submission is that we should strengthen the infrastructure of development if we want to educate everyone. How can we appoint good teachers by paying them just Rs. 2200 p.m. which is almost equal to the salary of a daily wager. We can easily imagine what type of children we would build up. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should centralise all its scheme and pay special attention to these three things roads, electricity and education.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: And health.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR: They would improve our health by using oil for lathis. If attention is paid to these things, we can succeed. I conclude with these words.

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA (Muzaffarnagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, would you like to give a ruling that oil should not be used for lathis. There is a great shortage of oil.

[English]

\*SHRI C. SREENIVASAN (Dindigul): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill. The Finance Bill is not merely an exercise in bridging the gap between the revenue and the expenditure. It does not merely stop with proposals for new taxes. It should also aim at providing relief to the poor and the underprivileged of the society. Whether the buying power of the underprivileged is enhanced and whether the downtrodden are provided with opportunity to earn their livelihood without being affected by the proposals in the Finance Bill is a point to be taken care

of. We must have to ensure that we could reduce disparity between the rich and the poor. Taxation and fiscal policy should not stop at providing opportunities to industrialists and the rich. Enough care must be taken to see that the poor and the middle class are not affected.

We wanted to levy the value added tax in a uniform fashion in all the States commencing it one and the same time. But we have postponed these dates not once but thrice. It is to be levied from the first of June this year. It is basically a decision of the Centre. It is claimed to be a consensual decision of all the States. But in reality the State Governments are becoming unpopular for a decision of the Union Government. This is like harming our years with our own hands. All the financial papers of the country have written in many of their editorials about the does and don'ts, advantages and disadvantages of this new VAT regime. They have also cautioned the Government enough for the revenue collection methods in this new dispensation.

Our Finance Minister hon. Shri Jaswant Singh in his introductory remarks during the commencement of this debate had dwelt at length on the VAT. He stated that our trading community has to be educated and we have to take up a campaign in a big way. He stated that our industry and chambers of commerce have to be prepared. All these measures should have been taken much before we could decide on a date to levy this tax in uniform fashion in all the States all over the country. You are doing what you ought to have done much before. There is a saying that the doer is one and the compensatory is another one. This is an example for our predicament to be in the purgatory for deeds that are not ours. The fiscal measures and the Finance policy of the Centre must take care to see that the State Governments are not left in the lurch and affected seriously. It is imperative.

When we fixed the target for our growth rate during the 10th Plan period we preferred to peg it to 8% but the growth rate has slid from 6.2. to 5.5 you had stated that the monsoon failure in the previous year, recession trend in world economy and war cloud looming large due to Iraq are the reasons for the fluctuation. Now we find the Iraq war almost over. Oil prices have not risen as apprehended. There is no hike. Hence we must have to think in terms of providing incentive to growth. You have announced tax proposals to fetch about Rs. 339 crore. This do not include the taxations and withdrawals of subsidies during the course of the year of on the eve of the Budget. The impact of indirect taxes are more pervading than the impact of perceivable direct taxes. Hence we need to be careful. For instance, power loom and small garment manufacturing units in the small scale sector are hit hard due to CENVAT and excise duty announced in the Union Budget. Change in upper limit for excise duty and introduction of CENVAT had forced these units to resort to agitation against taxation proposals. Hon. Chief. Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi had written to the Centre about these hard hitting

\*Translation of the speech originally in Tamil.

measures that would finish these industries and its workers in this sector. Hon. Finance Minister has now given certain clarifications that give great relief to the people in this sector and he has also assured them that they would be either restructured or withdrawn. Using HTPC yarn mosquito nets are manufactured. Levying of 10% duty on this would severely affect this manufacturers. This cottage industry must be exempted from this excise duty.

There is a shortfall in the share to the States especially Tamil Nadu in its rightful share from Central taxes. This loss is only partially compensated in the form of loan.

At a time when fiscal reform measures are taken up in full swing in Tamil Nadu whatever the Centre extends as a facility in the form of a meager incentive is insufficient. I urge upon the Union Government to restore the financial health of Tamil Nadu which is in the forefront for restructuring and giving a revamp to our fiscal policy. I would like to impress upon you that the incentive from the Centre for Tamil Nadu is not adequate at a time when Tamil Nadu even overtakes the Centre in the fiscal measures. A leading State like Tamil Nadu and its pleas must not be ignored. Fiscal reform measures are going on in a significant way in Tamil Nadu. In December 2002 in the National Development Council meeting, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Pratchi Thalaivi had insisted that there must be a common minimum agenda for both the Centre and the States in implementing fiscal reform measures. But there is no consultation mechanism evolved as yet. She also reiterated in the same NDC meeting the DA rate enhancement must not be unilateral. But still the Centre has not responded favourably. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the fact that the State Governments are not consulted in this regard in spite of her appeal in an august forum like NDC.

As far as VAT is concerned the Government of Tamil Nadu has invested heavily. At the initiative of Tamil Nadu Government there is a diversified industrial base there. Under VAT regime tax on inputs for export products have to be refunded. This is an incongruous situation and seriously affects the States especially Tamil Nadu.

We have fixed 8% growth rate as target for the 10th Plan period but we cannot ensure even 3% of growth rate with a quantum of Central assistance extended now. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to ensure better allocation to Tamil Nadu and a speedier release of funds to the efforts of Tamil Nadu.

We have accelerated irrigation benefit programme through which we get the funds from the Centre. Due to drought condition in Tamil Nadu we are deprived of large water system management. We have to manage with the medium and minor irrigation schemes. We have been hit hard by the worst drought of the century. Since we could not draw any fund from the accelerated irrigation benefit

programme I urge upon the Centre to modify suitably the AIBP to enable Tamil Nadu to get its share. At this juncture a minimum of 1,000 crore of rupees is required and the Centre must extend the same considering the natural calamity that has hit hard the State for a consecutive year now. The funds that flow from the Centre are 70:30, i.e., 70% as loan and 30% as grant. Our Chief Minister Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi has taken up with the Centre to change it to a proportion of 50:50. I request the Centre to favourably consider this plea in the interest of our State.

Open market loan is available @ 6% whereas Centre extends loans for plan expenditure @ 10.5% and loans for non plan expenditure at a still higher rate of interest. Hence I urge upon the Centre to permit the Government of Tamil Nadu go to in for more of open market loan in the option mode to overcome the quantum imbalance because the disparity is more now and the debt burden is insurmountable. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is taking up these things earnestly with the Centre. I only urge upon you to be responsive and positive. Tamil Nadu is rated high by the investors so it would be beneficial to allow us to go in for more of open market loan. Unemployment rate in Tamil Nadu is the third highest in the country and it is more than the national average and the century's worst drought has added to the woes of Tamil Nadu. We want a package from the Centre for our drought relief measures. Only then we would be able to provide livelihood to the jobless. I also urge upon you to provide more rice for our food for work programme.

There is also an urgent need to give utmost priority to the implementation of peninsular water grid system during the 10th Plan period itself. Linking of Mahanadi with Vaigai connecting all major rivers in between would wipe out poverty in this vast region. You may kindly include Tamirabarani river also.

Our nutritious noon meal scheme costing about Rs. 645 crore annually is a pioneer scheme in the country which has won laurels from even UN agencies. The Union Government that had promised to provide liberal compensation is yet to act on it. I urge upon the Union Government to give cent percent compensation for this social welfare programme.

Request for second airport at Chennai is pending with the Centre and we have also asked for declaring Chennai as a convention centre next to the national capital territory if only to attract more of foreign investors. I hope the Centre will concede to our request.

When you go in for cash reserve monitoring methods the Centre must ensure that the funds allocated for social welfare schemes must be released to the States without any precondition in the name of proportionate contribution. It is only the State Government that is directly reaching the people of the State and even the Central schemes are implemented by the State Government. Hence I urged

[Shri C. Sreenivasan]

upon you to have a relook into this because people should not be deprived of Centrally sponsored social welfare schemes due to financial crunch in the State.

In the Union Budget you had enhanced the tax on service sector from 5% to 8% and you had also identified ten more service industries in the sector. I want to impress upon the Union Government that the service sector and taxation on it must be left with the State Government like sales tax. This will help us to avoid double taxation and mobilize required funds for the State. A mother and a motherly soul is ruling Tamil Nadu now. But it is only a step motherly attitude that is ruling the minds of the people at the Centre. This has resulted in less fund flow to Tamil Nadu. Recently when I raised the question on waste land development I wanted to know what are all the ways in which the Centre was helping the States. It was stated that the Centre extends help in the ratio of 7:5. It was also stated that the Centre would forward the project proposals from the States to foreign agencies for getting needed assistance. The very same written reply stated that Andhra Pradesh got more than Rs. 400 crore of assistance when Tamil Nadu got a mere Rs. 12 crore for just four projects when 11 projects were pending with the Centre. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to avoid disparity and regional imbalance in waste land development. Not only in other social welfare schemes but also in land development the Centre must extend liberal assistance and ensure adequate allocation commensurate with the well-directed administrative measures of respective States.

At a time when Tamil Nadu under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi is striving to ensure significant fiscal reform measures to regain its past glory I urge upon the Centre to ensure adequate and sufficient sharing of funds from the Central taxes. Thanking the Chair again for the opportunity give to participate in the debate, I conclude.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill for reasons well known. Before I deal with the provisions of the Bill, at the outset, I may put before the House the present situation in the country.

When we approach the Finance Bill or tax proposals, the primary question that comes up is regarding the employment situation in the country. It is an irony of fate that we could not discuss the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Youth Affairs the day before yesterday. The reasons for that are well known. The Government decided to make disinvestment in profitable public sector undertakings and that is the reason why we could not discuss youth affairs on that day. Opportunity came after a gap of four decades to discuss that subject. In the

history of this House, it was the first time that the subject of youth affairs came up for discussion in the House. Unfortunately, that discussion did not take place. It is an irony or fate.

What is the position of the youth in the country today? I am an old man and I am bound to speak about the youth. Unemployment is becoming acute day by day. I am sure the hon. Prime Minister is also aware of the situation. They speak of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. There are many proposals but no employments is being given. We can see that recruitment in public services has more or less stopped because the Government is of the opinion that no further recruitment is needed. The State Governments are not filling even the posts that have fallen vacant as a result of retirements. The Central Government is also contemplating to reduce the employment opportunities for the youth. That is the position!

Through the process of disinvestment, almost all the public sector undertakings are being put up for privatisation. Youths are being thrown out of their jobs. If I am not wrong, there are about 40 crore youths awaiting employment in the country. It is a very serious situation. Everyday we hear of reports of criminals flourishing and the law being broken. All this is the result of our failure to provide employment for the youth. It is a very grave situation. The Budget has not addressed this serious problem. Without solving this problem, we cannot progress and we cannot claim ours to be a progressive nation.

The youth in the country is discontented. Suicidal tendencies are begin noticed among youths in the country. People are turning violent because they are not able to get any employment. They are unemployed now and they see no chance of getting any employment in the near future. The policy of the Government is to get rid of all the public sector undertakings, which are providing employment opportunities.

Coming to the agricultural sector, there also employment opportunities are dwindling day by day. My State Kerala is a cash-crop producing State. We produce 90 per cent of the rubber produced in the country. Rubber industry is in a bad shape and the rubber farmers are starving. The Government is not coming to the rescue of those farmers. The Government has not done anything to improve the conditions of the rubber farmers in India.

It is also an irony of fate that the natural rubber is included not as an agricultural product but as a raw material. That being the case, we do not get any protective treatment from the Government.

The tariff policy is against the interests of the rubber growers. So, they are clamouring for tariff protection. But the Government is turning a deaf ear to the rubber



growers. Sir, Kerala produce 90 per cent of the total rubber in the country.

Sir, same is the case of the tea industry. It is also in the decay. Tea plantation crop is facing a very serious crisis. Even the excise duty is taken away, and the multinational companies are allowed to import tea into this country, with the result, in the whole nation, the tea industry is getting into a very serious situation.

The whole plantation crops including pepper and aeronaut are facing crisis. What about the coconut growers? They are also facing the same crisis. I have earlier also mentioned in the House that the coconut growers are really facing a severe crisis due to some fatal disease in the coconut trees. They are getting dried. But so far, there is no hope or solution for this disease. The only advice given by the Coconut Board and the Central Government is that 'you cut away and remove the tree; you will be given Rs. 50.' But there is no remedy. There is no production. The agricultural production has come down drastically. That is the present position of the coconut growers.

Further, Sir, the coconut produces, namely, copra and coconut oil are all not included as the agricultural products as per the WTO Agreement. They are termed as only industrial raw materials. For the reason, they are getting no tariff protection. Coconut oil, palm oil and even copra is being imported from Malaysia and other countries, which is detrimental to the interests of the farmers in Kerala and other Southern States. But there is no solution.

Sir, we have met the Government several times but they have not done anything and they have not come to the rescue of the coconut growers. They are not getting any price in the market. Now, the only solution is to sell the coconut water because the water is now a very dear thing. The multinational companies are importing water in the form of mineral water. So, now, mineral water will come on par with the coconut water. This is the only solution for the coconut growers.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: But it is more costly. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: But there is no solution. There also, our position is very miserable. Now, we have been hearing that Bihar is also being neglected. But we were under the impression that only Kerala is being neglected. Nobody has come to our rescue to save these age-old industries. The age-old cash crops are being produced on the hilly regions of Kerala throughout the year, namely, coconut, rubber, cardamom. So, where should we go? Mr. Finance Minister, please advise me. Where should we go? Are we not Indians? We do not get any solution. We are not getting any price in the market because of the regulations that have been

imposed. Excise duty is imposed and the tariff policy of the Central Government has led us to such a situation.

So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly think over this situation. Otherwise, it will become very difficult for them to survive.

Now, I come to the industrial sector. Take the case of handloom industry and garment industry. They are starving. After all, cotton industry is an environment-friendly industry throughout India. It is very difficult to sell the produce. Due to the introduction of the duty, they are also starving. Handloom industry is not getting any rebate or any encouragement from the Government. They have to compete with the textile mill owners. What will be the result? It would result in closing down of all the handlooms throughout Kerala—not only in Kerala, but it is the case with States like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and others. All these States do not have any sales; they cannot sell it. The price of the loom or the thread is also made very costly; and they cannot compete with the textile mill owners. Who will come to their rescue? This is a cottage industry and who will help them? There is no remedy and nothing has been done. This is due to the reform policy or globalisation or privatisation.

So many slogans are raised; but the net result is that they are all starving. Starvation should not be there, if I may put it because we have stored foodgrains in the FCI godowns. They are there, only when the Prime Minister say, it will be released. They talk about 'food for work' Where is it taking place? In no place, this work is going on. Even in the case of MPLAD schemes, we are not getting food for work. Then, why are they stored in those godowns? Lakhs and lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains are stored and are getting decayed, but not given to the men to consume. The man is starving on the streets; and we are boasting that India is a very strong economy and we are a progressive nation, etc. We also discuss threadbare the provisions of the Finance Bill. With what result are we doing this? It is nothing but starvation. Foodstuffs are being kept there, but they are not being released.

What about the stock market position? Have we got a stable stock market position? No. The BSE sensex and others are falling down. India cannot have stability even in the stock markets. So, our position is very very dangerous. Unless and until we take some very drastic steps, we may not be able to proceed.

I am concluding with one remark about black money. We all speak of black money. It is a challenge to our economy. Did the Government take any action? There was a scheme previously for voluntary disclosure of assets. Nobody came forward to disclose voluntarily the income. The moneys are there still unaccounted. There is still time; and he may please look into it. One line

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

morning, he could demonestise the entire currency of Rs. 1000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 denominations. He could do it all of a sudden unlike the case of police raid. In the case of police raid, the information is given to people that police raid is to take place and the culprit is aware of that. So, you please do not do like that. You may declare on a particular day that all such currencies will be replaced by some other notes. Can he do that, to bring out black money? If he does it, we will have stability. Does he have the guts to say that entire currency of such denominations will be invalid from a particular date and that they would be replaced? If he does it, then black money would come out. Can the Prime Minister do it? If that is done, then to some extent, we could unearth black money that is challenging our economy; even then, I will not say that it would be complete. Unless and until we take such a drastic step. it may be very difficult. But we will have to do it. Then only, black money will come out and we can assess how it dangerous to our economic development. So until and unless some drastic steps, are taken, our economy will not be on the right path. We will be going from bad to worse. Employment of youth is another important thing which is going from bad to worse. I do agree that the hon. Finance Minister has some ambition and he is a committed man but he must fulfil his commitment to the society with a firm hand. In a democracy, firmness is required. So, he should take a firm decision on unearth the black money which will go a long way in solving the economic situation of the country. With these words I concluded.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland): With a deep heart I stand here to speak. Sir, through you, I would like to express to the hon. Finance Minister the sentiments of the Northeast people in general.

Since Independence there has not been much activity in important fields of industry or economic development in the Northeast. Assam was the only State then. There were other smaller districts which later on were bifurcated and changed to small States. Since 1972, these smaller States had been given the status of full-fledged States. Things could not be taken up because these states come into being only after Fifth Five Year Plan. These States did not have the infrastructure as the other States were having at that time. Therefore, the entire Northeast region reeled under insurgency and other law and order problems. Under those circumstances nothing could be achieved in the field of industrialisation.

The Industrial Policy of December 24, 1997 was to provide a tax holiday for a period of 10 years for the

industrial activities to attract investors to the Northeast region. None other than the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee had the vision to create a separate Ministry for the development of Northeast. Pursuant to the Industrial Policy of the Northeast region, approved by the Cabinet and incorporated in the Office Memorandum dated December 24, 1997, the Government of India, the Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Finance, issued an order *vide* the Notification No. 32/99/CE dated July 8, 1999, granting exemption of central excise etc. for manufacturing units in the States of Assam and Tripura. This exemption was withdrawn on December 31, 1999. Due to the kind indulgence of the hon. Prime Minister it was restored back on June, 17, 2000, August 28, 2000 and November 9, 2000, respectively.

The benefit of excise exemption was again withdrawn by the Ministry of Finance, from cigarette on June 22, 2001 and from *pan masala* containing tobacco and chewing tobacco on 1st March, 2001. The ground for this withdrawal was said to be misuse of policy by cigarette manufacturing companies which were manufacturing cigarettes in other outside the Northeast regions and then bringing them there to take advantage of the tax holiday and the excise exemption given to the northeast. The whole idea behind giving this exemption was very good but due to a few companies taking advantage out of it, the people of the Northeast had to suffer and it resulted in great loss of revenue, without social benefit to the people.

The flip-flop policy of the Central Government towards such a sensitive region has had a negative impact on the industrial development of the North Eastern region.

This, in fact, has shaken the confidence of the business houses. This is evident from the fact that despite providing complete 10 years tax holiday; and excise exemption, income tax, sales tax, municipal tax, etc. have made only minor in-roads into the North-East region.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your speech will continue. Now the House stands adjourned till Eleven of the clock tomorrow.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 29, 2003/Vaisakha 9, 1925 (Saka)*

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